Daily Report

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Owen on 'Inevitability' of Bosnia's Division

LD1706161893 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1608 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Geneva, June 17 (TANJUG)—Co-chairman of the conference on former yugoslavia Lord David Owen on Thursday indicated inevitability of a division of the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina into three ethnic communities—Moslem, Serb and Croat.

The situation on the spot has deteriorated so much over the past few weeks that it is inevitable to face the reality. We cannot go back, we have to seek a solution which would secure a lasting peace and just settlement—Owen told a press conference in Geneva.

The co-chairman refused, however, to speak about the borders at the present stage.

Since its secession from former Yugoslavia 14 months ago, Bosnia-Herzegovina has been the scene of a bloody civil, ethnic and religious war among local Moslems, Orthodox Serbs and Catholic Croats as a result of the Moslem leadership's efforts to organize the republic as a unitary state in which Moslems, the most populous people in Bosnia, would dominate over Christians.

Owen confirmed that the Serb-Croat-Moslem talks would continue on June 23, when the three sides would discuss a new plan for Bosnia.

He also confirmed the arrival of Bosnian Moslem leader Alija Izetbegovic to the meeting, to be held in Geneva, and dispersed doubts after Izetbegovic's walkout of the talks with the presidents of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia and Croatia Slobodan Milosevic and Franjo Tudjman in Geneva on Wednesday evening.

In Owen's view, Izetbegovic left the meeting earlier because he was leaving for Bonn.

Izetbegovic on Wednesday agreed with the proposals made on a future reconstruction of Bosnia-Herzegovina but asked to consult his presidency first, said Owen.

He said Izetbegovic's statement on an unacceptability of Bosnia's division into three parts was not a final stand.

Owen added that the most important thing was the stand of the Moslem presidency, which is expected to meet next Saturday in Zagreb instead of Sarajevo.

Owen added that he and Thorvald Stoltenberg, the other co-chairman of the conference on former yugoslavia, had met with members of the Bosnian Moslem-Croat presidency without Izetbegovic after the Milosevic-Tudjman-Izetbegovic talks.

'No Progress' in Talks Between Croatia, Serbs

AU1706175193 Paris AFP in English 1722 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Geneva, June 17 (AFP)—The Croatian government and Serb rebels of the Krajina enclave failed to make progress in two days of peace talks here, a Serb delegate said Thursday [17 June].

Misa Milosevic told AFP that with the talks foundering, the president of the self-proclaimed Serb republic of Krajina, Goran Hadzic, would meet later Thursday with international mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg.

Earlier Croatian television quoted Croatian government delegates to the peace talks as saying the two sides had failed to reach agreement on a truce.

Owen said Thursday that he and Stoltenberg rejected the validity of the "referendum" that the Krajina Serbs were planning to hold this weekend.

Serb voters of the southern Croatian enclave will be asked if they want to merge with the Serbs of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Owen said he was concerned that the referendum would provoke an attack from Croatian government forces, similar to their attempt to overrun Krajina in an offensive in January.

A Croatian attack would be "extremely dangerous," said Owen. He and Stoltenberg had made this clear to Croatian President Franjo Tudjman.

Meanwhile, Serb forces bombarded the Adriatic port of Zadar and three towns in the region, Zagreb television reported. There were no immediate casualty tolls.

Slavko Degoricija, the head of the Croatian delegation, told Croatian television that the two sides recommended only that their armies refrain from opening fire as of 1600 GMT Friday. The two-day referendum is due to start Saturday.

The Krajina Serbs took control of their enclave and other land in fighting that broke out in 1991 after Croatia declared independence from Serb-dominated Yugoslavia.

The Croatian offensive in January of this year, which broke a year-old ceasefire, was aimed at carving out a land corridor between Zagreb and the heavily populated southern coast.

Meksi Addresses Assembly on Draft Constitution

AU1806065493 Tirana ATA in English 1035 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Tirana, June 17 (ATA)—On June 16, the chairman of the commission charged to compile the draft constitution of the Republic of Albania, Aleksander Meksi, gave the respective explanations concerning the draft constitution.

Then the deputies discussed it. In the afternoon session, Mr. Pjeter Arbnori, chairman of the Presidency, gave the floor to the chairman of the parliamentary group of the Socialist Party, Namik Dokle, who made a statement regarding this draft constitution and later left the hall of the Assembly together with his parliamentary group. Skender Gjinushi, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, also read a statement.

Then, the session continued with questions to the Minister of Agriculture and Food Petrit Kalakula, demanded by the parliamentary group of the Socialist Party and the Social Democratic Party.

Social Democrats Issue Statement

AU1806081493 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Zamira Koleci report]

[Text] At a news conference Social Democrat leader Skender Gjinushi submitted a party statement presenting the main conclusions of an analysis of recent developments. He once again confirmed their declared position that the Social Democratic Party [PSD] will not participate in the discussion of any laws if the constitution drafted by the assigned commission is not presented to parliament.

Answering questions on this, Gjinushi told reporters that the commission will have every opportunity to present the constitution in the near future, and later explained that this stance has to do not only with deadlines, but, more seriously, with consideration for parliament.

The PSD statement speaks about the need to make further changes in the government's composition and the method of its work. Gjinushi expressed the opinion that they seek changes of a qualitative kind in the government, aiming perhaps at expanding the coalition base.

He considered his party's position on the Constitution of the Republic of Albania neither as an alliance with the Socialist Party, nor as the beginning of the electoral campaign. Without mentioning any party, the PSD leader asked the majority to consider the will of other parties, stressing that there can be no long-term stability without understanding and reciprocity.

Concerning the economic reforms, he requested that a medium-term program be presented to parliament. As for major problems, such as property, privatization, etc., he was for seeking a solution through consensus.

At the news conference, he said that the PSD will defend its program not by reconciling themselves to the rebellion reforms [as heard] of the market economy, but by defending the interests of the affected social classes, such as people relegated to social welfare, employees in education, health, the public services, and cultural sectors, as well as pensioners.

Asked about the position of his party toward the joint statement of the Albanian Socialist Party and PASOK [Panhellenic Socialist Movement] of Greece, and, more specifically, the agreement between those two parties that Greece plays a primary role in solving the crisis in the former Yugoslavia, Mr. Skender Gjinushi said that the party he leads objects to this idea. However, he agrees with some parts of the statement, thus confirming once again the good relations with PASOK.

Zhelev Tries To Dissuade Hunger Striker

AU1806074593 Sofia BTA in English 1930 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 17 (BTA)—Nadezhda Mikhaylova, head of the Press Office of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS), and Asen Agov, member of the group coordinating the union's protest actions, today met the press attaches of several embassies in Sofia. They briefed the foreign diplomats on the peaceful protest actions organized by the SDS in support of Edvin Sugarev MP of the SDS, Agov said. The SDS demands the resignations of the president and the cabinet, the dissolution of parliament and early parliamentary elections.

Edvin Sugarev has been on hunger strike since June 7, demanding President Zhelyu Zhelev's resignation. The SDS backed up Sugarev's demand. Yesterday the SDS parliamentary group decided to implore Sugarev to end his strike.

According to Luchezar Toshev MP of the SDS, Catherine Lalumiere, secretary general of the Council of Europe, will arrive in Sofia on June 25 to gather information on the political situation in Bulgaria and on Sugarev's hunger strike. Toshev said he had written a letter to the Council of Europe asking it to send a representative to this country.

Meanwhile, one of the five persons who have been fasting in support of Sugarev's demands collapsed and was given urgent medical care, it was reported from the Danubian town of Vidin. The rest are still fasting. Protesters pitched a tent camp in a garden in front of the building of the Town Council in Kyustendil (southwestern Bulgaria).

President Zhelyu Zhelev today visited Yordanka Slabakova, a mother of two sons, who has been fasting in support of the president for eight days. Democracy does not need such protests, the president said, trying to talk Slabakova out of fasting.

The SDS protest actions in support of Edvin Sugarev are a storm in a teacup, according to the MP's of the New Union for Democracy, recently set up by MP's who left or were expelled from the SDS. There are no appropriate conditions for a nationwide outbreak of unrest and the actions taken by a group of SDS leaders will subside, Asen Michkovski MP of the New Union for Democracy told a briefing today. According to him, the protests will die down in a few weeks and the public need not get worked up.

The Constitutional Forum is in favour of joint action in defence of the president, parliament and the government, Nikolay Genchev, leader of the organization, told a news conference today. The extraparliamentary constitutional forum will insist that President Zhelev ask Vice President Blaga Dimitrova to resign. The organization also calls on the cabinet to fill the vacant ministerial positions and insists that the mayors disobeying the executive be called to account.

The Edinstvo Independent Trade Union declared itself in support of the democratically elected parliament, president and government.

The locals of the centrist extraparliamentary political forces in the Danubian city of Ruse organized a big rally in support of President Zhelev tonight. The organizers are the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party, the Green Party, the Alternative Social Liberal Party, the New Bulgaria Party and the Ecoglasnost Political Club among others, a national radio correspondent reported from Ruse. Speakers at the rally called for a determined resistance to the SDS actions and the escalation of tensions. They voiced their support for the democratically elected institutions.

Municipal mayors of the Sofia, Lovech and Ruse Regions staged a procession in support of Edvin Sugarev today.

923,000 signatures have been collected in support of Sugarev's demands so far, the SDS Press Office said.

Berov Discusses Cabinet Changes With Parties

AU1806081293 Sofia BTA in English 1858 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 17 (BTA)—Prime Minister Lyuben Berov today received the leaders of the parliamentary Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) and the BSP-led coalition. According to Georgi Pirinski MP, they discussed the political situation in this country and the government's functioning. Commenting on the personnel changes in the cabinet, Mr. Pirinski said the discussion on this issue had not ended and he thought the proposed changes will be debated and voted in parliament next week.

After a meeting with the leaders of the New Union for Democracy (NSD), Mr. Berov said one problem delaying the changes in the cabinet was he disapproved of the candidates for the Foreign Minister portfolio, moved by the different factions. The NSD MP's said they, on their part, had not sponsored specific persons, but had heard the premier's suggestions, which they will discuss.

The NSD opposes the candidacy of Petur Kornazhev, former member of the Great National Assembly, of the extraparliamentary Bulgarian Social Democratic Party, saying, as a member of an extraparliamentary party, he is not politically responsible.

According to Gospodin Atanasov MP of the NSD, if Prof. Berov offers ministerial portfolios to the NSD, it will enter the cabinet, but will not insist that the future ministers be of their faction alone. The changes will probably take place in early July, he said.

The premier and the ethnic Turks' Movement for Rights and Freedoms (DPS) discussed different scenarios to appoint cabinet members, Yunal Lyutfi, DPS deputy floor leader, said. It was agreed that the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture will be split in two, Mr.

Petur Kornazhev may be appointed justice minister, candidacies for ministers of culture and transport are being clarified, Mr. Lyutfi said. The case is less simple with the foreign minister, as there are many candidates, the MP said.

Zhelev Supports Declassifying Police Files

AU1706201193 Sofia BTA in English 1515 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 17 (BTA)—"Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev supports last night's address by National Assembly Chairman Aleksandur Yordanov, who urged parliament to pass a law to declassify police files," the president's spokesman today told BTA.

"The president's position on police files, which he has reiterated on many occasions, as early as when he led the National Coordinating Council of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) and held a seat at the Great National Assembly, has not changed," the spokesman said. "In an April 10, 1992 letter to the chairman of the National Security Committee, the president said, 'a new, democratic society cannot be built by people, who voluntarily signed declarations to cooperate with the secret services. I hope, the procedure will be carefully worked out, so as not to discredit innocent persons. Besides, every citizen should have a right to see his file, the right to know how the totalitarian machine controlled his life. As painful as the truth may be, I am convinced it will have a purging effect on society and put an end to speculations with police files.'"

The same issue was raised yesterday by National Assembly Chairman Aleksandur Yordanov, who delivered a televised address in connection with the hunger strike of SDS MP Edvin Sugarev and his demand for the president's resignation. "In my capacity as head of parliament, I declare myself clearly and categorically in favour of a declassification of the police files," Mr. Yordanov said.

The National Assembly chairman addressed his appeal for declassification of the files to all political forces and all parliamentary factions. He believes that the files declassification bills should be included in parliament's legislative work and that this will guarantee that the 36th National Assembly will be able to fulfill a great moral duty to the Bulgarian people. "Otherwise, it will be simply pointless," the head of parliament said.

In the TV show "Repercussions," Interior Minister Viktor Mikhaylov was skeptical when asked what he thought about the appeal by the head of parliament, who was backed by the SDS and the New Union for Democracy (NSD, the fourth parliamentary faction). "Generals are now on trial for having burnt and destroyed a large amount of files. Three contending governments have already been there," Mr. Mikhaylov said.

He believes that the right time to decide to declassify the files was at the end of 1989.

The politicians' police files should be declassified, in an honest and precise way, according to NSD MP's. Beside the three existing Declassification Bills, they will move their own draft, Dimitur Ludzhev of the NSD told a briefing today.

"People are sick of hearing talk about KGB plans, 'wedges,' and the like, spread by some SDS leaders," Mr. Ludzhev said, asked by a questioner why he and his colleagues raise this issue so suddenly.

Mr. Ludzhev, a former SDS member, indirectly asked whether current SDS leaders Stefan Savov, Filip Dimitrov, Yordan Sokolov and Svetoslav Luchnikov were so sure of themselves and had never taken part in dirty games, especially before the fall of the communist dictator Todor Zhivkov's regime. He assured the reporters he did not name them accidentally.

Parliament Refuses to Discuss Issue

AU1806074393 Sofia BTA in English 1948 GMT 17 Jun 93

["Today"—BTA lead]

[Excerpts] Sofia, June 17 (BTA)—The Minister of Finance Stoyan Aleksandrov today met with officers from Tax and Financial Services in Khaskovo, southern Bulgaria. They discussed measures to enhance the efficiency of the financial control system. "We are doing our best to strengthen the regions' financial autonomy," Mr. Aleksandrov told a meeting with mayors and regional government officials later today.

A seminar on the role and functions of non-governmental organizations in environmental protection in a democratic society will be held at the St. Kiril Hotel Complex near Asenovgrad, southern Bulgaria, under a joint programme of the Environment Ministries of Britain and Bulgaria six representatives of well-known British environmental organizations will share experience. The participants are expected to draft a three-year action plan, in keeping with the organizations' aims and tasks. The seminar is sponsored by the British Government's Know-How Fund. [passage omitted]

Parliament today held second-reading debates of the Tax Administration Bill, but did not vote the document. Early in the sitting, it turned down a motion by the parliamentary Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) to discuss the issue of the declassification of police files raised yesterday by National Assembly Chairman Aleksandur Yordanov (of the SDS). The idea was today supported by President Zhelyu Zhelev. [passage omitted]

At a meeting with the charge d'affairs of the Czech Republic Petr Pospihal, National Assembly Chairman Aleksandur Yordanov invited the chairman of the Czech Parliament to head a parliamentary delegation to Bulgaria this autumn.

The leaders of the extraparliamentary New Bulgaria Party and Constitutional Forum today signed a joint

declaration to set up a Liberal-Conservative Union. The declaration stresses the need to set up a new political formation to match the rightist orientation of the Bulgarian transition to democracy and give impetus to the market and civil reforms in this country.

A regional conference on the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and Bulgarian Legislation will take place in Veliko Turnovo on June 22, the BTA local correspondent reported. It is organized by the Council of Europe Human Rights Directorate, the Bulgarian Association for Fair Elections and civil rights and human rights organizations in this country.

The newly-appointed Bulgarian ambassador to Argentina Vasiliy Takev today presented his credentials to President Dr. Carlos Saul Menem. He delivered greetings from Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev and renewed the latter's invitation for Dr. Menem to visit Bulgaria. The sides discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations in various fields and specifically trade and economic cooperation. President Menem offered expert assistance in privatization, foreign debt issues and inflation control, fields in which Argentina has gained experience.

Officials React to Anti-Zhelev Strike

AU1706104493 Sofia BTA in English 1844 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 16 (BTA)—MP Edvin Sugarev of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) has been fasting for nine days now. He went on hunger strike demanding the resignation of President Zhelyu Zhelev. According to the latest press release of the SDS, Mr. Sugarev feels faint but his state of health is not critical. Today the SDS parliamentary group decided to draw up a declaration imploring Edvin Sugarev to call off his hunger strike.

The SDS parliamentary group confirmed yesterday's decision of the SDS top leadership that the SDS MP's should not walk out of parliament. "I will not give in my resignation as chairman of the communist parliament," National Assembly Chairman Aleksandur Yordanov told the press after the group's meeting. Some people in the coalition believe that Aleksandur Yordanov, Vice President Blaga Dimitrova and Deputy National Assembly Chairwoman Snezhana Botusharova should resign.

In the meantime at today's briefing the extraparliamentary Bulgarian Liberals Party raised a demand for the resignation of Vice President Blaga Dimitrova. A declaration of the Liberals Party describes that Vice President Blaga Dimitrova's television statement on Monday [14 June] as a violation of the Constitution pointing out that her appeal for early elections is an instigation for further destabilization and constitutional crisis. She has no right to continue to perform her duties and stay in her office as vice president both from a moral and a constitutional point of view, the participants in the briefing were told.

The Liberals Party expressed its support for President Zhelyu Zhelev and called upon him not to yield to blackmail. Twenty-four parliamentary and extraparliamentary parties and organizations will meet this weekend to prompt vigorous legislative action in support of the president.

The New Union for Democracy parliamentary group (set up by MP's who either split or were expelled from the SDS) is going to ask the Constitutional Court to dismiss Mrs. Blaga Dimitrova for violation of the Constitution. Under the Constitution, the vice president should support the president and his activity.

A citizens committee has been formed in Shumen (northeastern Bulgaria) which will fight for obeying the rules for political activity set out in the Constitution and will oppose the attempts to blackmail President Zhelyu Zhelev.

Mayors from Ruse (on the Danube) and Plovdiv (the second biggest city in this country, situated in southern Bulgaria), elected on the ticket of the SDS, handed petitions to the Presidency and the Council of Ministers protesting against the budget cuts of municipal funds and the amendments to the Land Act recently approved by parliament. The mayors express support for Edvin Sugarev and demand the president's resignation. Before presenting the petitions, the mayors visited the tent camp near the Presidency. SDS leader Filip Dimitrov called upon the protesters for the avoidance of acts incompatible with democracy, such as tearing books and burning them down. In yesterday's protest action copies of Dr. Zhelev's book *Fascism* were torn to pieces. "Let us oppose the lies, the substitution of the people's vote and the attempts to establish a dictatorship by a peaceful protest," Filip Dimitrov said.

The Cooperation Council, comprising 12 parties and organizations (including the parliamentary Alternative Social Liberal Party and the Movement for Rights and Freedoms), issued a declaration expressing concern about the development of the political situation in the country over the last few days. "The attempts to destabilize the democratically elected institutions by means of hunger strikes and street pressure are growing into attempts to destroy them," the document says. According to the council, this is a manipulation of the thwarted hopes of millions of Bulgarians who stand for democracy. The Cooperation Council intends to take vigorous action in support of the institutions of power.

The Executive Council of the Independent Trade Union (NTU) has decided that the trade union's supreme body, the General Council, will consider a proposal for general strike. The NTU, which does not participate in the National Council for Trilateral Cooperation, insists on the formulation of a new policy regarding the cost-of-living adjustment, immediate submission of the bills on the separation of the pension funds from the national budget and on social security, and on taking measures to curb unemployment. According to NTU leader Plamen

Darakchiev, the strike decision can be adopted at any moment, depending on Edvin Sugarev's state of health.

According to the leadership of the influential Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB), there are not any major industrial disputes and social tensions in Bulgaria at the moment, but they may be provoked in result of the existing political confrontation. CITUB Vice President Diyana Damyanova said that the CITUB would seek to play a stabilizing role, that is why it had called upon its members not to take part in provocative, unlawful and undemocratic acts.

The SDS told a briefing held late in the afternoon that according to incomplete data, over one million signatures had been collected in favour of President Zhelev's resignation.

Given the developments over the last few days, the SDS categorically backs up Edvin Sugarev's demand for the president's resignation, Asen Agov, a member of the staff of the SDS National Coordinating Council responsible for the protest actions coordination, told the press today.

The president has not answered yet why the chief of the General Staff of the Bulgarian Army and the president's national security adviser are in Moscow at a moment when the question is about the imposition of martial law, Mr. Agov said. The Coordinating Council has information that at a meeting of President Zhelev's advisers his statement was described as a mistake. We believe that thanks to the citizens' protests and the SDS politicians' activity the danger of imposing martial law has been averted, Asen Agov said.

Cabinet Adopts Import Regulations

AU1706200893 Sofia BTA in English 1533 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 17 (BTA)—At a regular meeting today the Council of Ministers decided to increase the number of Bulgarian representatives to the European Community in Brussels now that this country has signed an association agreement with the EC. The Bulgarian delegation will consist of six diplomats, one of them an ambassador, and a technical staff of four.

The cabinet today approved amendments to import regulations concerning corporate importers and single merchants. Deputy Prime Minister and Trade Minister Valentin Karabashev explained the amendments were necessitated by Bulgaria's accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The Council of Ministers' decree lifts import duty on certain goods, adding it to the customs duty so that the tariff remains unchanged, except for chicken whose tariff goes up 5 percent. The decree introduces an extra import duty of 3 percent for 1993, 2 percent for 1994, and 1 percent for 1995. Tariffs on 40 kinds of goods, mostly made in Bulgaria, increase. Tariffs on 13 items, mostly raw materials, are reduced under the decree. It fixes duty-free quotas for powdered milk, fodder, machines and equipment for environment-friendly plant.

The cabinet approved an amendment to the section of the Stamp Duty Act concerning the granting of Bulgarian citizenship. The amendment seeks to ease the procedure for ethnic Bulgarians and their offspring applying to acquire or restore their Bulgarian citizenship. Foreign citizens who do not have a Bulgarian parent and Bulgarians applying to have their Bulgarian citizenship revoked will pay higher duty.

The cabinet approved draft agreements for double taxation relief between Bulgaria and Venezuela and Bulgaria and Macedonia.

The Council of Ministers adopted a draft resolution for parliament to ratify an agreement with the World Bank for government guarantees. It also approved an agreement between the National Electricity Company and the World Bank for a 93 million dollar loan

Todorova Details Debt Settlement Offer

AU1806112293 Sofia BTA in English 0953 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 18 (BTA)—At the latest round of talks in Frankfurt, Bulgaria moved an updated debt-settlement scheme to the advisory committee of commercial creditor banks of the London Club, Mariana Todorova, head of the Bulgarian delegation, yesterday told journalists upon her return from the talks. Ms. Todorova is today quoted by STANDARD NEWS, PARI, and 24 CHASA.

According to Ms. Todorova, the new scheme envisages a debt and debt service reduction of at least 50 percent, the PARI financial news daily says. Bulgaria can afford to pay 200 million dollars annually, while creditors insisted on over 400 million dollars. According to Ms. Todorova, if the creditor banks make concessions equal to those made by Bulgaria over the last two years, an arrangement can be signed in early 1994. The speeding up or slowdown of this process depends on parliament, which should vote the money to effect 20 percent of current interest payments and additional funds for payments after the deal, she said. "Bulgaria can afford a 750 million dollar initial payment after the deal," 24 CHASA cites the official as saying.

According to her, the present round of talks made it clear the London Club cannot commit itself to sanctions to the banks, which deducted 100 million dollars from accounts of the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank, 24 CHASA reports.

Most-Favored-Nation Agreement With Turkey

AU1706155093 Sofia BTA in English 1001 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 17 (BTA)—Bulgaria and Turkey initialled a new agreement under which the two countries

grant each other a most-favoured-nation trading status. The Bulgarian delegation to the 12th session of the Joint Bulgarian-Turkish Committee on Economic and Technological Cooperation in Ankara returned to Sofia late last night. A protocol on the meeting has been signed.

In an interview aired on national radio this morning, the chief adviser on foreign economic relations at the Council of Ministers Marin Todorov said that the session passed in a spirit of friendship, mutual understanding and search for concrete practical results. The two country's delegates had a number of meetings with representatives of the power industry, telecommunications, different modes of transport, the two countries' Chambers of Commerce and many others, he said. According to Mr. Todorov this has lent realism and promise to the commitments assumed by the protocol.

It was specified that interested Bulgarian commercial banks would shortly negotiate a 50 million U.S. dollar credit with the Turkish Eximbank to fund Turkish exports of immediate interest to Bulgaria.

Institute Shows No Sign of Economic Turnaround

AU1806072693 Sofia BTA in English 1744 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 17 (BTA)—The slower pace of the slump in industrial production first registered in March persists, Dimitur Fratev, spokesman for the National Statistical Institute (NSI), told a news conference today. According to him, this is not sign of a turnaround in the economy yet. Stagnation in investment, a rise in unemployment, setbacks in foreign trade and the continuing slump in production show the economic situation has not changed radically yet, according to NSI Deputy Director Prof. Gatev. He recalled that in 1992 the NSI projected the drop in production will stop in 1994 and the first signs of growth will become obvious in 1995.

Sales in May were 1.5 percent lower than in May 1992. An increase in sales was registered in coal mining and the oil industry, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, the pulp and paper industry, the chemical and petrochemical industries, printing and publishing. Some 40 percent of enterprises reported either no decline or an increase in sales.

The decrease remains high in light industry: 19 percent in the food industry, 10 percent in mechanical engineering, 6 percent in electronics, 10 to 30 percent in the glass, leather and textile industries.

Inflation in May ran at 5.3 percent, reaching 29.3 percent since the beginning of the year. The prices of services rose 5.1 percent, of non-foods 2.1 percent, while food prices rose less. The prices of services went up 50 percent in the January-May period. The prices of foods and non-foods increased 25 to 26 percent, according to the NSI.

Wages rose in the first quarter from an average of 2,248 leva in January to 2,322 leva in February and 2,832 leva in March. Wages in power engineering and the financial sector are highest at 6,579 leva and 5,409 leva, respectively, and lowest in the nonproductive sector at 2,302 leva.

Employees engaged in material production numbered 1,426,000 in may. The personnel of 43 percent of enterprises was reduced due to closures and cuts, according to statistics. There was a slight rise in unemployment as 13,000 people were made redundant in May, while the monthly average is 11,000. Job losses were most numerous in trade and industry.

Havel Signs Law on Constitutional Court

LD1706200093 Prague CTK in English 1946 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Prague, June 17 (CTK)—Czech President Vaclav Havel today signed a law establishing the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic, a presidential spokesperson said today.

The law takes effect July 1. The Chamber of Deputies (parliament) approved the law today.

The court, defined by the Czech Constitution as a legal organ to protect the Constitution, consists of fifteen justices appointed for a period of ten years. Justices are appointed by the president with the consent of the Senate. If the Senate has neither approved nor rejected the nominations within 60 merely because it has not taken a vote, then its consent will be assumed. If the Senate or a provisional senate has not been established, as is currently the situation, the powers of the Senate devolve on the Chamber of Deputies.

Czech President Vaclav Havel intends to submit to the Chamber of Deputies a list of candidates for the Constitutional Court by the end of June, his spokesperson said.

The candidates' qualifications are first to be examined by a group of legal experts which the president established today.

Kovac: SNS To Receive 4 Ministerial Posts

LD1606220993 Prague CTK in English 2044 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Prague, June 16 (CTK)—Slovak President Michal Kovac said today that the Slovak National Party (SNS) would receive four ministerial posts in the Slovak government under its new agreement with the ruling Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS), Czech Television reported.

The SNS is expected to head the ministries of economics, health care and education, and to fill the newly established seat of minister without portfolio.

Czech Television also quoted Kovac as saying that he would accept Friday the June 15 resignation of Privatisation Minister Lubomir Dolgos (HZDS). Slovak Economics Minister and HZDS member Jaroslav Kubecka is expected to replace him.

Dolgos's resignation is widely attributed to the HZDS leadership's no-confidence vote in him at its meeting last weekend. Dolgos remains the HZDS's deputy chairman for economic questions.

Government Passes Environment Bills

LD1606224393 Prague CTK in English 2010 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Prague, June 16 (CTK)—At its regular session today, the Czech Government passed a bill on the air protection and a bill on air protection management and fines for polluting the air.

The government also discussed a timetable for crime reduction submitted by Interior Minister Jan Ruml. In conjunction with this, it charged the Ministry of Justice to finish an amendment to the penal code.

Inspection Minister Igor Nemec submitted a report on the progress of privatisation in health care. The government charged the district office chairmen and the mayors to settle rapidly the relations of property rights in the health facilities which are run by them.

Minister of Agriculture Josef Lux submitted the annual final budget of the land fund of the Czech Republic for 1992 and the annual report on its activity. The government approved them.

The government also approved the direct sale of the state's capital interests and of some state-owned enterprises such as Kazeto Prerov-Prerov branch, Sedlcanske Strojirny Sedlcqany, Stavomontaze Pilsen, Keramicke Suroviny Bozicany, Csad Melnik, Drubezarske Zavody Vodnany—Mirovice Branch and Zeleznobrodske Sklo Zelezny Brod.

The government approved the proposal of Mr Sabela, Tera and Cejka to the praesidium of the Czech national property fund. The proposal will be submitted to the chamber of the deputies.

Parliament Accepts Council of Europe Statute

LD1606154193 Prague CTK in English 1521 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Prague, June 16 (CTK)—The Czech Parliament voted today to accept the statute of the Council of Europe (CE), which outlines the obligations of CE member states.

The Czech Republic will thus become a full member of the council, probably June 29 or 30, Czech Foreign Minister Josef Zieleniec told parliament.

He said admission to the Council of Europe would be one of the most important steps in the life of the young Czech state.

He said it would represent an authoritative and formal confirmation of the democratic character of the Czech Republic and an international guarantee of its future democratic development.

It would also mean an important increase in the Czech Republic's influence in European policy, a necessary political precondition for gradual integration into the

European Community and a source of important assistance regarding the exchange of democratic ideas and technical and material support.

The speed of the application procedure to the CE, a mere six months between the submission of the application and the expected admission, is unparalleled, Zieleniec stated.

In conjunction with Czech membership in the CE, a permanent mission of the Czech Republic to the CE will be established, said Zieleniec. Czech President Vaclav Havel has appointed Ambassador Jiri Malenovsky as head of the mission.

Agricultural Privatization Data Reviewed

AU1506082193 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 10 Jun 93 p 3

["rm"-signed report: "The Delay of Privatization in Agriculture Is Relative, Says Josef Lux"]

[Text] A total of 1,015 enterprises with an aggregate value of 211 billion korunas have been subject to the privatization process in agriculture. In industry, on the other hand, privatization has affected 1,643 enterprises worth 731 billion korunas.

This disproportion notwithstanding, 64 percent of all industrial organizations have been privatized, compared with only 26 percent of agricultural enterprises. In the food industry alone, where the conditions are comparable with those in [other branches of] industry, as many as 64 percent of all enterprises have been privatized. According to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture Josef Lux, agriculture is distinguished by two important specifics—the number of restitution claims and the date by which restitution claims could be made. A total of 228,179 claims for restitution have been put forward in agriculture (see table), compared with a mere 1,434 claims in the entire industry. Restitution claims have been made for some 40 percent of the property of state farms, for 20 percent of the property in other segments of primary agricultural production, and for only 2.7 percent of the property of food industry enterprises. Under the law, claims for restitution in agriculture could be put forward by 31 March 1993, whereas in industry they had to be put forward by 30 June 1992. According to Josef Lux, when these factors are taken into consideration, the process of privatization and restitution in agriculture can be regarded as comparable with the other economic sectors.

Restitution Claims Made in Agriculture, Compared With the Situation Within the Department of the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade

	State Farms	Other Primary Agricultural Production	Food Industry
Number of claims made	84,714	11,324	1,123
Value of claims made (in millions of Czech korunas)	23,644	8,279	1,431
Proportion of claims in total property of enterprises (in percent)	40.5	20.4	2.7
Total value of property of enterprises (in millions of Czech korunas)	58,309	40,535	52,663
	Water Supply and Drainage Systems	**Forestry**	**Ministry of Industry and Trade**
Number of claims made	218	130,800	1,434
Value of claims made (in millions of Czech korunas)	106	174.4	26,529
Proportion of claims in total property of enterprises (in percent)	0.2	1.2	3.6
Total value of property of enterprises (in millions of Czech korunas)	45,591	15,500	731,825

Kovac Views Trip to Eastern Part of Republic

LD1706213393 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1630 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Excerpts] President Michal Kovac and his spouse ended their two-day working visit to eastern Slovakia today [17 June]. In the afternoon he met the management of Kosice-based tertiary educational establishments and later he met other members of academic community. [passage omitted]

Prior to flying back to Bratislava President Michal Kovac gave an interview to the Slovak Republic press agency TA SR and Radiozurnal. Radiozurnal was represented by Miroslav Lukac.

[Begin recording] [Lukac] President, I may be wrong, but it seems that your working trips out of Bratislava are taking you most frequently east of the republic. If this is the case, what is the reason?

[Kovac] We have to take this end of our republic as our starting point, because we regard it as a very important part of Slovakia. I could confirm for myself that the reports that the east is allegedly heading in a different direction are untrue and I am therefore pleased to have been able to reassure myself to this effect also during this trip. [passage omitted]

[Lukac] Over the last two days, your meetings were dominated by economic topics and problems. Could you briefly reassess your talks today with Kosice businessmen and with the management of the East Slovak Iron Works?

[Kovac] I wanted to give a boost to businessmen and assure them that even though certain errors with regard to private businessmen in implementing economic policy may occur, that this is not because their needs would be ignored or underestimated, but that this boils down to insufficient experience and insufficient knowledge and that political bodies, the state, and the government are very much interested in establishing the best possible conditions for the development of private enterprise. [passage omitted]

[Lukac] In Trebisov district yesterday and in Kosice today you said that the main purpose of your trip was to get acquainted with local problems and give a boost to the mood of the population. Do you think that your trip has met its objective in this respect?

[Kovac] I do not wish to sound immodest, but I had the impression that people needed to be cheered up. I did not bring any empty promises with me. My impression is that I succeeded in convincing people that resolving all problems is in our power.

Foreign Minister Moravcik on Talks in Germany

LD1706141593 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Excerpts] The main events during the visit to Germany of Foreign Minister Jozef Moravcik were the opening of the embassy of the Slovak Republic in Germany, Slovakia's interest in membership in major European organizations, and Germany's participation in the process of transformation of our economy. Because his working trip still continues, we telephoned the Slovak Republic embassy in the Kingdom of Belgium. Stella Hanzelova asked Minister of Foreign Affairs Jozef Moravcik several questions. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Hanzelova] Has there been any shift for the better in terms of our chances to join the European Communities after your talks in Germany?

[Moravcik] Germany is following our steps in this direction with interest. It accepts what we are doing and its supports and understands us.

[Hanzelova] In the context of asylum laws, how did the talks about the border between Czech and Slovak Republics go?

[Moravcik] This issue was not discussed in any special detail. The Germans merely expressed interest in our clarifying as soon as possible the issues that are being discussed with the Czech Republic so that the migration problem in the whole region and in the context of all countries contributing to sorting out this issue could be resolved. After all, without mutual follow-up agreements this problem simply cannot be dealt with. But we [?were unable] to discuss this issue in specific terms and we did not discuss it. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Government Passes Law on Minority Names

AU1806081993 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 16 Jun 93 p 2

[Antonia Vymazalova report: "First and Last Names Not Only in Slovak"]

[Excerpts] Bratislava—Yesterday's regular Slovak Government session, chaired by Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar, began with a special report by Finance Minister Julius Toth on the results of the International Monetary Fund mission to Slovakia. These results had an influence on the seven proposals put forward by Social Affairs Minister Olga Keltosova to amend laws and government decrees. The government returned them for reworking. [passage omitted]

At a press briefing, Interior Minister Jozef Tuchyna informed reporters of the security situation in the Slovak Republic during the first quarter. He described it as very serious from the point of view of the rise in crime. In comparison with the same period last year, the number of crimes has risen by 8,289, which is a rise of 38 percent.

The government approved a draft National Council of the Slovak Republic [NR SR] law on first and last names, which enables people of ethnic minorities to enter their first and last names in registers in a language other than Slovak. The use of bilingual names for towns and communities will be an element of the material on the Slovak Republic's territorial-administrative division. [passage omitted]

The government approved two draft privatization projects and, at the suggestion of the Supreme Control Office, postponed it until the next session. It had discovered, for example, that the Stein brewery in Bratislava had been undervalued twofold.

It approved with comments a draft NR SR law on establishing the Slovak Military Academy in Liptovsky Mikulas and it recommended that the name of the Slovak National Uprising Air Force Academy in Kosice be maintained.

HZDS May Call For New Elections

AU1706131793 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 14 Jun 93 pp 1, 2

[TA SR report: "Ministerial Ejection Seats; If Lubomir Dolgos Forms a New Party, the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia Will Advocate New Elections"]

[Excerpts] Slanicka Osada—[passage omitted] Responding to the TA SR's question whether the vote of no-confidence in Lubomir Dolgos, minister for the administration and privatization of national property, also calls in question his post as deputy chairman of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia [HZDS], HZDS Deputy Chairwoman Olga Keltosova told a news conference after the meeting of the HZDS Board [on 12 June] that Lubomir Dolgos was elected to that post by the HZDS Assembly and that only the HZDS Assembly could recall him. "The next HZDS Assembly will be held in March 1994 and I do not see any reason to bring that date forward," she said.

Should Lubomir Dolgos set up a new party that would "siphon off" other deputies, no matter from which club in the National Council of the Slovak Republic [NRSR], members of the HZDS Board would consider it inevitable to call new elections. In their opinion, they would contribute to stabilizing the present political scene in Slovakia.

While discussing the possibility of forming a coalition government, members of the HZDS Board noted that agreement with the Slovak National Party was most feasible. Ivan Laluha, chairman of the HZDS Club of Deputies in Slovak parliament, said that the programs of these two parties had much in common, on the basis of which a program of the coalition government could be drafted. [passage omitted]

According to Ivan Laluha, the HZDS Board also assessed Prime Minister and HZDS Chairman Vladimir Meciar's trip to the United States. Board members agreed that the program of the U.S. Democratic Party was close to that of the HZDS in many respects and that the HZDS ought to seek more intensive contacts with that party.

Members of the HZDS Board also approved an NRSR bill regulating internal affairs within the Slovak legislative body. The bill should address the problem of deputies who ran in the elections on the ticket of one political party but subsequently left this party and became independent. The bill should also address the problem of the mandates of deputies of the former Federal Assembly. HZDS deputies will submit the bill to the Slovak parliament during its plenary meeting in June.

Jeszenszky Discusses European Foreign Relations

AU1706121593 Prague CESKY DENIK in Czech 15 Jun 93 p 5

[Interview with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky by Ivan Vilcek; place and date not given: "'Let Us Look After Our Ethnic Minorities'"]

[Text] [Vilcek] Mr. Minister, our countries have not had a common border since 1 January, but our common history—unlike the border—cannot be erased. In what way have Hungarian-Czech relations changed since the CSFR's breakup and what is your personal attitude toward the Czechs?

[Jeszenszky] My feelings about the Czechs possibly derive from family traditions. One of my great grandfathers was of Czech origin, hence my Slavic-sounding name. It has been established that Dr. Jesenius, who became rector of Charles University in 1597 and who was later executed, was also one of my ancestors. For me, there is a strong link and similarity between the 1956 revolution in Hungary and the 1968 Prague Spring. This inspires in me a great deal of interest in Czech history and the Czech people in general. I wrote a study on Jesenius called *Jesenius—A Martyr for Czech-Hungarian Mutuality*, which was also published in Slovak. All of this has influenced my personal good feelings about the Czechs.

The CSFR's breakup has not made much difference to our relations because there have never been any major disputes between us. The intensity of mutual contacts has, perhaps, somewhat declined, but economic contacts are becoming more and more regular. Purely Czech-Hungarian disputes do not in fact exist and our contacts are dominated by our joint endeavor to incorporate our states into the European structures. Although we have not signed a formal agreement on a joint course of action, in practice, however, our starting position is the same. A good example of this was the recent meeting of the NATO working group in Budapest, where the main points I made in my introductory speech concurred with those made in the speech delivered by your Deputy Foreign Minister Vondra.

[Vilcek] Although our countries are members of the Visegrad Group [Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland], it seems that our orientation toward Europe is, to a certain extent, quite individual. Or, is this a misleading impression?

[Jeszenszky] Yes. Our cooperation may not be so obvious, but we are taking joint steps. We recently told representatives from the European Parliament that, although there is seemingly a bitter contest among the Central European states over entry into the European structures, this is in fact a contest held in the Olympian spirit—that is, everyone who achieves his goal is a winner. I am unaware of any serious rivalry between our countries. This rivalry is perhaps more palpable in the business sphere, but the better side will always win. Coordination among the Visegrad Four exists even today, although it may not be so ostentatious, striking, or obvious. We meet each other at international conferences and we always find time for talks. Our representative offices in various parts of the world often work together. The ambassadors of the Four's countries recently organized a joint news conference in Paris. Therefore, we have reduced the number of regular, formal mutual visits, but we meet and hold talks at conferences everywhere else. Cooperation among the Visegrad countries used to be more often at the forefront of the media's attention and, therefore, it may seem to an impartial observer that our relations are less intense. Our cooperation is progressing calmly and evenly.

[Vilcek] When will you visit Prague?

[Jeszenszky] Mr. Klaus was last in Hungary in September last year. I was last on an official visit to Prague in 1990, and in 1992 I attended a Visegrad Four meeting there. I will certainly visit Prague before the elections.

[Vilcek] So far, no one has been appointed Czech ambassador to Hungary. Does the fact that such an important post has not yet been filled harm mutual relations?

[Jeszenszky] Naturally, it would be advantageous for bilateral relations if a Czech ambassador were appointed as soon as possible. Both the individual himself and the post of ambassador are important. However, the Czech Republic's new representatives in Budapest have already been successful in maintaining continuity in mutual ties.

[Vilcek] Mr. Minister, you said recently in Brussels that your country will gladly accept any help in boosting its security. Was this a reference to the threat from the proximity of the civil war in the former Yugoslavia, or does Hungary feel threatened from another quarter?

[Jeszenszky] The conflict in the former Yugoslavia represents an immediate threat to us. If for no other reason than the fact that a sizable Hungarian minority, which feels endangered, lives on Serbian territory in Vojvodina. In the global sense, however, I am of the opinion that Central Europe must not become a "no-man's-land." I am not calling for the repeated division of the so-called spheres of influence among individual powers. However, cooperation among the region's countries alone cannot guarantee their security. I consider it to be important for our countries to gradually become members of the European Community, NATO, and the other European structures. After all, we have always lived in Europe and we do not want to protrude from it in any way.

[Vilcek] A statement made by Slovak Prime Minister Meciar during his visit to the United States, that he would welcome U.S. guarantees for the Slovak border, may tie in with this. Apparently, the American side even broached the idea of expanding its military presence on the post-communist countries' territory. What is Hungary's stance toward such an initiative?

[Jeszenszky] It seems to me that a knowledge of history is required here. In 1947, the United States was one of the guarantors of the peace treaty that guaranteed the unchangeability of mutual borders in Europe. In the current situation, when the United States is trying to reduce its presence in Europe, it seems unrealistic to me to talk about expanding its presence. I doubt that it will make a military appearance in other European countries in the very near future. Hungary has never asked for—and is not asking for—a foreign military presence. We believe in a political and non-military solution to problems. The Hungarian public would react rather adversely to the presence of foreign troops on its territory. Throughout our history, there have been so few occasions when someone has not enforced his will by a military presence that such a solution would be extremely unpopular. One after the other, for a period of 450 years, we had the Habsburgs, the Germans, the Russians....

[Vilcek] Is it more problematic for Hungary to have Slovakia rather than the former Czechoslovakia as a neighbor?

[Jeszenszky] There has been no physical change here. We have had Slavic northern neighbors throughout our history. The difference is, however, that Prague has managed to pursue our mutual relations with a certain detachment and the Hungarian minority in Slovakia provided the link between us. Moreover, in the past, this minority was never an obstacle to good neighborly relations. As far as the current Slovak Government is concerned, the Hungarian minority issue remains a very important aspect of the new state's problem-free entry into the European structures. Unfortunately, the Slovak side is not adopting an accommodating approach to this issue and is instead looking to history to find reasons for its tough stance. For example, the idea has taken root in Slovakia that 400,000 Slovaks lived in Hungary after World War I, while today only a few thousand Hungarian citizens describe themselves as Slovak. This is an absurd claim, because the number of Slovaks in Hungary has never exceeded 150,000. Of this number, we exchanged more than half for Hungarian citizens (unfortunately, Benes is to blame for this; he declared in Paris that, following the division of Austria-Hungary, there should be the same number of Hungarians in the Czechoslovak Republic as Slovaks in Hungary...). Immediately after 1920, the proportion of minorities was 1,000,000:150,000 in favor of Hungarians in Slovakia and Transcarpathia. Our minority in Slovakia will always be paramount in determining our relations with that republic. I expect more accommodating steps from the Slovak leadership in this area. If we are to act together to the minorities' benefit, this issue will not be an obstacle, but, on the contrary, the minorities will become a link between us. We and the Slovaks may get to know and understand each other better through our minorities.

[Vilcek] The dispute surrounding the Slovak minority parties' submission of a protest to the European Parliament via Hungarian Republic delegates provides fresh evidence that things are not moving in this direction. Slovak Parliament Foreign Committee Chairman Ivan Laluha even referred to this as interference in the Slovak Republic's internal affairs by Hungary.

[Jeszenszky] The Hungarian parties in Slovakia asked European Parliament deputies to consider whether the Slovak Republic has done everything it should do in accordance with European Parliament norms on ethnic issues to gain acceptance into this organization. One of our deputies received this material from a Slovak deputy and handed it over to a friend. Nevertheless, the European Parliament deputies received this material directly from representatives of the Hungarian minority parties in Slovakia. The issue here involves ethnic Hungarian deputies in the Slovak Republic exercising their rights and not the Hungarian Republic's interference.

[Vilcek] Mr. Minister, the Hungarians have repeatedly praised the Ukrainian Government and its ethnic policy. Do you also see similar positive developments in other countries where there is a Hungarian minority? I mean, first and foremost, in Slovakia and Romania.

[Jeszenszky] Arnold Toynbee, one of this century's well known historians, said: "Primitive nations massacre their minorities, civilized nations gather evidence regarding their satisfaction." It would be useful if not only politicians, but all people in Central Europe, realized that every satisfied group of people enhances the status of the country in question. This may be an ethnic minority or any other group of people.

If, however, such a group feels suppressed, it can make itself heard where there is freedom of the press and freedom of speech. This is absolutely normal. In the current situation, unfortunately, minorities living in our region see no guarantees for their future. This is also the cause of the war between the southern Slavs. Serbs living in Croatia have no intention of accepting an uncertain status following this republic's independence from the former Yugoslavia. The international peace plans guarantee a special status for this Serb minority. I think all the minorities living in our region should have a special status, at least in cultural autonomy. Minorities are comparable with the status of various religious groups in society. They also have internal problems that they resolve among themselves within their community. This would be a viable approach in the educational and cultural spheres. Democracy means, first and foremost, local democracy. Minorities must be proportionally represented not only in the parliament of the given country, but also in the local self-administrations. For example, this is what has happened in South Tyrol. Even Basque resistance in Spain has been weakened by the government's accommodating steps in this direction. These are examples it is necessary to follow.

[Vilcek] Some deputies in the Hungarian Parliament have demanded—most recently during the debate on the Hungarian-Ukrainian Treaty—that the borders be drawn on an ethnic basis. This provoked a rather negative response in neighboring countries. Will the Hungarian side guarantee the unchangeability of its neighbors' borders?

[Jeszenszky] It would be helpful if politicians and the public in neighboring states would follow carefully the Hungarian Government's official policy on this issue. After all, it is clear from our statements that Hungary is not trying to resolve the minorities issue by changing the borders, but by demanding that all the rights of the ethnic minorities in neighboring states are observed. Unfortunately, people abroad have paid more attention to those deputies who are in an insignificant minority in our parliament and whose hapless and stupid statements are now complicating relations with our neighbors. Of the 39 deputies who eventually voted against the Hungarian-Ukrainian Treaty, the majority have admitted that they were afraid of an influx of migrants from among the Hungarian minority in surrounding states who would—according to them on the basis of their interpretation—"lose hope." Certain forces have simply used this against Hungary and are, so to speak, employing the Hungarian threat as some kind of scare tactic.

However, because we are talking about 3.5 million people, this is not a trivial point of view. In my opinion, such treaties will—on the contrary—guarantee all the minorities' rights and the reasons for emigrating will thus be reduced to a minimum.

[Vilcek] In your opinion, how much damage has the recent dispute within the ruling Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] done to Hungary's image as a stable country in this region?

[Jeszenszky] The most recent steps taken by our party leadership are aimed at regaining unity within the MDF. The statements made by these politicians—led by Istvan Csurka—are being used by some of Hungary's neighbors as evidence of the danger represented by our country. They use them as proof. The removal of these people from their posts will help to reestablish Hungary's stability and good standing in the world. By the way, I do not consider Istvan Csurka to be such a radical politician as the media makes out. He is not the type to incense and provoke Hungary's neighbors. He has often made unfortunate statements and the media in particular has paid much more attention to them than to the statements made by other politicians. The proof of this is obvious: Many more people in the West know the name of Istvan Csurka than the name of the Hungarian prime minister! At the same time, the influence of these two politicians on Hungary's course and future development is diametrically different.

However, stability is measured by the fact that the MDF has now been in power for more than three years and that the majority of us have been in our posts without change throughout this period. As far as I am concerned, this is proof of the stability of the state. I wish some of our critics abroad enjoyed the same stability.... I am convinced that there will be no early elections in Hungary and that the government will continue to be stable. The 1994 elections will again hold up a mirror to our efforts and that is completely in order in accordance with the Constitution.

[Vilcek] Thank you for the interview.

Jeszenszky Receives Colombian Foreign Minister

LD1706212393 Budapest MTI in English 1806 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Budapest, June 17 (MTI)—Colombian Foreign Minister Nohemi Sanin and Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky reviewed economic and political trends in the two countries and the two regions during talks in Budapest on Thursday.

The Colombian foreign minister, who arrived in Hungary today, told journalists they had agreed Colombian businessmen could visit Hungary, to look at investment opportunities. She added that Hungary's political stability is reassuring for investors.

Sanin also said Colombian-Hungarian cooperation could grow if Hungarians appeared in greater numbers in the Latin American region, and if Colombia got a firm footing in Central Europe.

Drugs were a topic. Colombia tries to combat the drugs trade, Foreign Minister Sanin said. Everyone called for more cooperation in this and the fight against drug-related money laundering.

MDF Politicians Discuss Political Situation

AU1706173893 Budapest PESTI HIRLAP in Hungarian 16 Jun 93 p 5

[Roundtable discussion with Zsolt Zetenyi, spokesman of the Hungarian Justice Nation Policy Group and member of the Hungarian Democratic Forum's National Presidium; Lajos Horvath, acting leader of the Hungarian Justice faction; Katalin Remport, member of the MDF's center; and Bela Horvath, administrator of the Hungarian Way Foundation; moderated by Imre Bednarik and Zoltan Fekete; place and date not given: "Roundtable Discussion on Right-Wing Tendencies in the Hungarian Democratic Forum—There Always Has To Be a Person Who Starts To Use the Bible"]

[Text] Events have accelerated in the Hungarian Democratic Forum's [MDF's] parliamentary group of deputies. At first, the Hungarian Justice Nation Policy Group [MINCS], an independent group of deputies, was formed with 29 people, and then, on 14 June, the Hungarian Justice faction was formed with 10 members. The MDF is like a stirred up beehive that does not yet know whether to treat the group that endeavors consciously

and firmly to represent matters of vital importance to the nation as an adopted child or as a new competitor. In the crossfire of debate, we invited Zsolt Zetenyi, Lajos Horvath, Katalin Remport, and Bela Horvath to a roundtable discussion.

[PESTI HIRLAP] What were the goals and intentions in establishing the MINCS?

[Zetenyi] The MINCS was established at the end of May, and its members also form the MDF faction's national policy platform. Our program is not markedly different from that of the MDF because the Lakitelek founding statement and the various articles and statements of the founders are not really different from the founding document of the MINCS. Just like the Lakitelek document, we also pay special attention to the assertion of social justice, the consistent assertion of Hungarian and Christian values in education and cultural leadership, and the establishment of factual mass media. We also hold the view that it is mainly the guilty leaders of the past autocratic system who are responsible for the current difficult economic and political situation, and that, therefore, they should be called to account without delay. Our goals are known, and we had to emphasize them again because, in our view, since it came to power, the MDF has on occasions been forgetting about the basic documents.

[Remport] I cannot accept Zetenyi's argument because some of the MDF's basic principles are possible to implement, while others are not. Governing implies obvious compromises, just as parliamentary work does. In my view, the fundamental conflict arises from the fact that the MDF consists of three tendencies, namely the Christian, liberal, and popular ideologies. People who have committed themselves to one of these tendencies have become distanced from those in whom the three ideologies are equally present. In my view, the mentality and policies of those who are becoming distanced are further from each other than from the center. It is typical that all three sections agreed to the laws on the provision of justice. The Zetenyi-Takacs bill did not fail because of the faction or because of parliament—it was because of the opposition's rejecting attitude. If they had supported the bill, then the Constitutional Court would not have dared to reject a provision of justice that had two-thirds support.

[Lajos Horvath] The problem is precisely that the government did not have any laws on the provision of justice. What happened to the Zetenyi-Takacs bill speaks for itself, the government did not do anything after the Constitutional Court's decision, and it has not been interested in scrutinizing former secret agents. This is precisely why a faction was set up that presents radical politics in a civilized form. We would at last like to force the government to coordinate with its own deputies, rather than with opposition factions.

[Bela Horvath] Formally, only one group exists in the current faction of 150 people, the 25 to 30 people, including myself, who regularly attend faction meetings. It is actually these people who embody the deputy group, and when they attend a session they think that they represent the Hungarian public opinion and the spirit of the MDF. An increasing number of "Angi Vera" types [reference to a film] appear at faction meetings and, in the style of the 1950's, perform a five-minute self-criticism, trying to adjust to the current situation as eminent pupils. It is enough to quote [Prime Minister] Jozsef Antall's words in 1991, when he said: "It would be important to establish a value system in which deceit and lying are to be ashamed of rather than to be proud of." A few weeks ago, however, this was still to be seen at a faction meeting when officials tried to tamper with a vote in the deputy group through deceit.

[Remport] I do not think that only 20 to 30 people form the faction. Naturally, we cannot have full attendance at faction meetings, because they coincide with the experts' committee meetings and other expert discussions. As for the "Angi Veras," many people are indeed searching for their identities and finding their place in the MDF's three-fold trend.

[PESTI HIRLAP] Where would you put national radical politics on the political spectrum?

[Lajos Horvath] Hungarian political science and the Hungarian press offer rather primitive political assessments. They think that the center right or the center is immediately followed by the extreme right. However, there is a very broad and colorful political spectrum between the two. The Hungarian Justice faction is between the center right and the right wing.

[PESTI HIRLAP] Could you be a little more precise? Political public opinion places [Independent Smallholders Party Chairman] Jozsef Torgyan's smallholdeers here.

[Lajos Horvath] I would not like to refer to West European examples, because we would easily get into a conflict with the MDF center, saying that this is their sister-party.

[PESTI HIRLAP] The Hungarian Way and the Hungarian Justice names curiously resemble the Romanian Hearth [Vatra Romaneasca], Romania's chauvinistic anti-Hungarian party. We see them as the extreme right. We need not remind you, perhaps, that the first use of the term Nazi came from the MDF faction.

[Zetenyi] The term Nazi was used for Istvan Csurka. We could argue about whether it was justified. In my view, it should not have been done. Although Csurka is a member of the Hungarian Justice faction, this does not mean that it is Csurka's group. National radicalism means moderate and right-wing politics that is committed to the nation.

[Lajos Horvath] I would prefer to compare our faction to the Justice Party of Turkey and call it a democratic,

civic, and right-wing group that is committed to the nation in the healthy sense of the word.

[Zetenyi] If the Federation of Young Democrats calls itself a center party then the MINCS can also be said to be in the center. In my view, comparison to the Vatra, just as calling Csurka a Nazi, which is the most unfortunate event in Hungarian political life in the past year, is outrageous and senseless. In my view, this is what started the polarization of the MDF. Our national radicalism stems from Endre Bajcsy-Zsilinszky, who fought for a national collectivism interwoven with social elements.

[PESTI HIRLAP] How much do the MINCS or the Hungarian Justice faction derive from the ideology of the Hungarian Way?

[Bela Horvath] The Hungarian Way emerged as a foundation and set out honest and clear goals for itself. These goals can still be accepted today. However, the strongest attacks were directed against us. The whole phenomenon is based on three factors: the Foundation, the movement—that is the Hungarian Way Circles as a whole—and the newly created faction.

[PESTI HIRLAP] What party is behind the new faction?

[Lajos Horvath] Most of the new faction members are MDF members. Thus, the MDF is behind this faction, but time will decide how things will develop in the future. I do not regard it as impossible that the MDF members will create an independent coalition in cooperation with the MDF [sentence as published]. First we must learn the program of the Hungarian Way, and only then we can speak about relations between us.

[PESTI HIRLAP] Several people from the faction presidium said that a party can only have one faction in parliament.

[Remport] That is true. The MDF cannot have another independent faction.

[Lajos Horvath] If this is a final category, a forced situation could emerge in which the faction will have to form a party. This is what I would find the least fortunate.

[PESTI HIRLAP] Can statute decisions be changed?

[Zetenyi] Everything can be done if there is the will. Let us leave this question to expert constitutional lawyers and to forums that can measure politically how fortunate it is to reduce the importance [sulytalanitas] of such a grouping. Let us not be the ones to give advice on this. The real question for me is whether this faction can receive financial support and whether its members can "enjoy" the possibilities given to the members of other factions.

[Lajos Horvath] The Japanese governing party has no problem with the existence of several factions within it. This is a matter of practice.

[PESTI HIRLAP] To conclude our discussion, we would like you to sum up your political goals.

[Remport] The center has clearly committed itself to government policy. Actually, the faction has been doing this so far, and it will continue to do so. The center is open to working together with various trends, and we also accept your desire to appear as a separate force at the next elections. I think it is realistic to say that, with every trend separately, we can accumulate more power than if we stayed together.

[Bela Horvath] The situation is desperate, because we are already so far that the MDF deputies confuse the collision of principles and arguments and the marked representation of our ideology with readiness for compromise. Today, it is also a problem to support the budget of a youth organization that advocated national-Christian and conservative values. Why?

[Lajos Horvath] This is why the Hungarian Justice came into being. In my opinion, the national political grouping and faction emerged as a result of the government's mistakes over the past three years rather than the road ahead of us, mistakes that culminated with the Hungarian-Ukrainian basic treaty. When we started together in the MDF, there were very small differences between the various trends. Today, these differences have already become clear even to the blind. Therefore, we, the "blind," have formed our own group, and it depends on future political circumstances what road we will have to follow in the spirit of Endre Bajcsy-Zsilinszky.

[Zetenyi] In a few years' time, differences in style and tone will develop in the big parties. We could still maintain self-restraint in this process of differentiation, but the question is whether the political tracks can still be traversable between similar trends. The existence of the MINCS and of the faction is also suitable for calling upon the democratic forces outside the faction and parliament. There is always the need for someone to take up the Bible. This ancient book can always be checked and used to remind individuals and society that they do not live according to the stipulations of the Testaments. I do not think that those in question would object to this. The MINCS wants to call upon the MDF faction, rather than to separate and turn into an opposition. We would like to return to the common sources and to keep the conscience of the MDF alive by means of our ideological proximity.

Russia To Give MiG-29 Jets as Debt Payment

LD1706191493 Budapest MTI in English 1718 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Budapest, June 17 (MTI)—The Hungarian Government has authorized the minister of defence to sign a contract, under which Russia will deliver military hardware, including MIG 29 jets, worth USD 806 million, to cancel former Soviet debts to Hungary.

In a Thursday government session break, Defence Secretary Laszlo Szendrei recalled that it was on Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Budapest last year that an agreement was reached on this way to partially cancel Russian state debts.

Moscow's debts total about USD 1,700 million minus interest.

With economic uncertainty in Russia, it seemed safer to accept proposed Russian arms deliveries, valid only until June 30, than to wait for eventual repayment in cash, the state secretary said.

The Defence Ministry worked out a list of demands for using the USD 800 million. The list, however, was not in concert with the Russian offer, as Hungary wanted an SZ 300 air defence missile system, to secure national defences for 8 to 10 years.

Under the agreement, Russia will deliver 22 battle and 6 training MIG 29 fighter jets to Hungary, worth USD 750 million, and parts and ammunition worth USD 50m.

Moscow has also agreed to pay to deliver the aircraft to the Hungarian-Ukrainian border, and to train the future pilots of the fighter jets. The contract will be signed soon, and selected pilots will immediately leave for three and a half months training in Russia. Most of the MIG 29 aircraft will arrive this year.

Brigadier General Bela Biro added that the Hungarian air force badly needs these aircraft, as most of the 130 planes will soon reach their allowed flying time. Some of them will be withdrawn after the MIGs arrive, others will be fitted with new weapons.

International agreements allow Hungary to have 180 fighter aircraft. In view of its economic situation, the country will not reach this limit in the foreseeable future.

Slovene Farmers Lift Road Blockade on Border

LD1806083693 Budapest MTI in English 0728 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Budapest, June 18 (MTI)—Slovenian peasants lifted their more than three-day road blockade at Redics and Bajansenye on the Slovenian border with Hungary after midnight on Friday. The action was aimed at forcing out an increase in agricultural purchase prices.

Hungarian border guard spokesman Colonel Attila Krisan told MTI on Friday morning that by 8 am a hundred trucks had left Hungary as a result of accelerated crossing and customs proceedings on both sides of the border.

Queuing at Redics is expected to end by early this afternoon.

PHARE Modernization Program Detailed

LD1706085393 Budapest MTI in English 0747 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Budapest, June 17 (MTI)—Hungary has, since 1990, received an annual ECU 100 million from the Phare [Economic and Reconstruction Aid for Poland and Hungary] aid programme of the European Community. To date, part of the aid has been used for the foreign training and extension training of Hungarian researchers, teachers and university students, developing a scientific equipment park, working out curricula, and financing research. Major amounts were granted for the development of small and medium ventures, infrastructural investment in certain backward regions, public administration, training, and purchase of computerized systems.

A new agreement was signed in Budapest in early May, which ensures anouther ecu 100 million, that is somewhat more than HuF [Hungarian forints] 10 billion (1 ECU equals about HuF 106.5), for economic transformation, higher education, the backward regions, environmental protection, and the comprehensive development of public administration.

The Phare name implies the EC action programme aimed at the economic reconstruction of Poland and Hungary (Pologne-Hongrie: action pour la reconstruction economique). The aid is financed and managed by the European Community. Hungary received an annual ECU 100 million in each of 1990, 1992, and 1993, and ECU 114.5 million in 1991. The countries involved later included the three Baltic states, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia (until January 1993), Yugoslavia (until November 1991), Slovenia, Albania and Romania.

These countries were granted a total of ECU 1 billion last year. Under recently approved, medium-range development plans, the amount is to be increased, but the sum will be gradually decreased for countries that have received aid from the very beginning, such as Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

From among the diverse programmes of the 1990-92 period, there are two aid projects whose social effects are greater than the amounts spent. One serves higher education, and is known as the Tempus Programme. In the framework of this, Hungary has received some ECU 35 million over three years. Some of the money was used to finance the foreign study trips and partial training of 1,600 university and college students, and 1,900 teachers. The other part of the money was used to purchase instruments and installations for institutes of higher education, with the remaining amount spent on working out higher educational curricula and new training aids (books, reference materials). To date, some 200 projects have been assisted from Tempus funds.

The other programme was organized experimentally. Over three years, ECU 36 million has been allocated to assist small and medium-sized businesses. Although the

amount has not been fully exhausted, a major result is that the Hungarian Foundation for Enterprise Promotion, which handles the fund, has set up local enterprise agencies in six county seats, in cooperation with the municipal authorities. These provide business consulting services and mediate business contacts.

The loans offer three types of opportunity to entrepreneurs. Under HuF 10 million, they make it possible to purchase machines and installations at preferential interest rates. With the so-called micro-loan system,, small enterprises can purchase fixed assets, and expand their stocks. It is also possible for them to use the sums of this credit construction as a guarantee for repaying loans raised from Hungarian commercial banks. Some 500 Hungarian entrepreneurs have received assistance in the framework of these three forms.

The agreement signed this year runs for two years as regards the assistance forms, and has been adapted to the fact that the country's switch to a market economy is now past the initial stage. This makes it possible for the Phare Programme to be placed on a market basis, and for the projects funded to be more closely related to the development of a private economy. The sides decided to set up enterprise promoting funds and a guarantee fund from the Phare money, and to switch to co-financing. In this case, the aid is to be used in the preparatory stages of certain major investments.

Technological development, the modernization of agriculture, health care reform, and the Tempus Programme are to receive priority among the new partial programmes. The development of computer systems, modernization of housing management, and environmental protection will also be among the priorities from 1994.

In 1993, the Tempus Programme will use ECU 16 million, and the same amount is envisaged for 1994. Other related programmes are to be launched in 1993-94, for instancve the Accord Programme that assists science will receive ECU 10 million. The regional research network equipment centres acquired highly valuable instruments between 1990 and 1992, thanks to Phare. The greater part of the new aid can now be turned to the purchase and introduction of instruments and computer systems under a competitive system. The remaining amount will be used to finance international research with Hungarian participation, international conferences held in Hungary, and scholarships.

Suchocka To Run in Parliamentary Elections

LD1706154393 Warsaw PAP in English 1309 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 17—Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka announced Thursday that she will run in the forthcoming parliamentary elections in Poland. "It is customary that the prime minister runs as a candidate in elections," Ms Suchocka declared. She added, however, that she will not start an election campaign as this would mean the suspension of the government's work.

Suchocka also disclosed that she favoured an electoral bloc grouping the Liberal Democratic Congress (KLD), the Democratic Union (UD) and the Polish Convention.

Comments on Non-Party Bloc

LD1706154793 Warsaw PAP in English 1349 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 17—Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka told journalists Thursday she understood President Lech Walesa's concern to create the non-party bloc to support reforms. Suchocka stressed that if many separate political groupings take part in the elections, it can lead to considerable fragmentation of a future parliament. The prime minister told journalists she collected reports on events linked to the demonstration staged here June 4 to commemorate the first anniversary of voting down the Jan Olszewski cabinet. She added that in a state where there was the freedom of expression, it would have to be manifested within the limits of law.

Says Unemployment 'Top Priority'

LD1706195193 Warsaw PAP in English 1838 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 17—A top priority for the government at present is to fight unemployment, Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka told reporters at a press conference here Thrusday.

She announced a detailed programme of measures to combat joblessness to be unveiled by the Labour Ministry soon. The essential elements in that programme will be a more flexible wage system, promotion of small and medium-sized private firms, and tax relief for companies engaging in job-creating investments.

Suchocka referred to her letter to the prime ministers of EC states of early June in which she urged easier access of goods from east-central Europe to EC markets. After what she regarded as a favourable reaction from the foreign ministers of EC nations, Poland awaited the final decision from the summit of prime ministers in five days' time. "We count on the West to display courage," she said.

Suchocka said Poland could not accept the text of a treaty with Lithuania as proposed by that country which included mention of "the Polish armed onslaught on Vilnius in 1920." However, Suchocka expressed hope that the treaty would be signed.

The p.m. [prime minister] declared she would run in the forthcoming parliamentary elections. She said she understood President Lech Walesa's efforts to set up a non-party bloc of support for reforms (BBWR) to avoid excessive fragmentation of the future Sejm (lower house). Another way leading to that goal was forming electoral blocs by the political parties, she added.

Walesa Announces Schedule for Elections

LD1706194993 Warsaw PAP in English 1734 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 17—President Lech Walesa signed Thursday an ordinance defining the time-table for the parliamentary elections to be held in Poland on September 19.

The time-table opens with the date of June 22 by which day the minister of justice should present to the State Electoral Commission judges who will form provincial electoral commissions supervising elections to the Senate.

The provincial electoral commissions should be formed not later than on June 26. The final date for the appointment of district electoral commissions responsible for elections to the Sejm (lower house) is set in the time-table for August 2.

Other important dates included in the document are July 26 and August 10 which are the final days for submitting lists of candidates for senators and district lists of candidates for Sejm deputies, respectively.

August 30 is fixed in the time-table as the last day for electoral committees to submit their list of candidates.

The start of election campaign programmes in the Polish Radio and Television is set for September 4 and their conclusion for September 17, midnight.

Skubiszewski, Walesa Meet With Thai Minister

LD1706211993 Warsaw PAP in English 1800 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 18—Polish Foreign Affairs Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski and his Thai counterpart Prasong Sunsiri signed an agreement on cooperation between the two ministries at the conclusion of Thursday's Polish-Thai plenary talks.

Minister Skubiszewski said that the agreement "is a framework for the development of existing, very favourable political relations." He added, however, that greater stress in Polish-Thai relations should be put on economic contacts.

On Thursday, Minister Prasong Sunsiri also was received by President Lech Walesa.

The president stressed that the Polish side is satisfied with the current state of relations. "However, our country, while changing its system and old political and economic alliances is looking for new possibilities. I am convinced that in the course of the working talks we will find them," said Lech Walesa.

Center Alliance Chairman Makes Statement

PM1606103693 Gdansk DZIENNIK BALTYCKI in Polish 9-10 Jun 93 p 3

[Statement by Jaroslaw Kaczynski, Center Alliance chairman, to reporters during a news conference in Gdansk; date not given: "Center Alliance Teams Up With Movement for the Republic. Kaczynski: I Am No Political Shark"]

[Text] "In democratic systems demonstrations are an altogether natural and expected phenomenon. However, we must ask ourselves whether we really do live in a democratic system if the authorities react as nervously to demonstrations as was the case last Friday in Warsaw. A vast number of police reinforcements were gathered together and a riot was provoked. What happened on that occasion in the streets of Warsaw bore an uncanny resemblance to the practices that were common in the Polish People's Republic [PRL]," Center Alliance Chairman Jaroslaw Kaczynski said during a meeting with Gdansk reporters.

"The aim of our demonstration was to display the unity of the center-right orientation on the anniversary of the overthrow of the Olszewski government. The former premier's absence was merely a question of tactics, not a symptom of some conflict between us. The center-right orientation is joining forces! If it wants to win the election, it must complete that process before the election is called—that much is obvious. On Sunday Antoni Macierewicz's Polish Action teamed up with the Movement for the Republic. On Wednesday the Center Alliance will join these two, and it will most likely be accompanied by the Peasant Alliance and the Christian Democratic Labor Party [ChDSP]. As I announced during the Center Alliance Congress last April, I will not aspire to assume leadership of the center-right bloc. This is in order to dispel suspicions that I am a 'political shark.' Moreover, for the good of our cause the Center Alliance is also inclined to relinquish the opportunity to present their list of parliamentary candidates without having collected the qualifying number of signatures, even though that right is guaranteed in the electoral law.

"We are also open to an agreement with the Christian National Union [ZChN], although talks with that group present, by definition, a rather complex question because of their presence in the government. However, I still hope that we will eventually reach an agreement. It would be a poor state of affairs if we were to fight over the electorate with a party which is ideologically quite close to our own position.

"What about the Conservatives now? Well, I am a Christian and I can accept people who have changed their views...

"The Center Alliance is a modern Christian democratic party. It is non-nationalist, and it draws on the ideology of the political movement which played a major role in postwar Europe as regards the task of building prosperity and protecting people against communism. We believe that Poland needs changes, since the combination of the old PRL state with the new state has in effect generated a monster. The principal argument being debated in Poland today concerns the following problem: Can we continue to walk the same road or should we map out a new one? In our opinion the present road leads nowhere. At the most, it can take us straight into the Third World. This is why we suggest a different solution. We are in favor of capitalism, but against the configurations which protect the interests of the old and the new nomenklatura, the interests of the groups which are becoming immensely and disproportionately rich at the expense of the whole society. It is their opinions and positions which today decide the condition of the country's economy. A good example illustrating the situation is the recent case of the excise seals affair. It was up to the prime minister to make the decision: Should we allow the Sejm to pass the relevant act first, or should we dissolve the Sejm immediately? She chose the second solution without considering the consequences. The decision will cause the state treasury to lose some 500 billion zlotys [Z] each month. So I do not know if we can say that the prime minister was guided by the state's interests in this case. And let me remind you that at the same time the trade unions were told that there was no money for pay rises.

"We demand that the processes of [anticommunist] vetting and decommunization be carried out, but this has nothing to do with retaliation or hatred. The idea is to demolish the old corrupt setups. For example, as long as all the banks remain in the hands of postcommunist nomenklatura, our economic policy will be conducted according to their own interests. We, on the other hand, are simply interested in allowing the economy to expand and develop normally.

"We are waging a war against those who defend the status quo. There was a time when we conducted that war on our own. Today, fortunately, the battle front has widened. Our accession to power will be followed by a restructuring which will benefit the majority of our society. On the other hand, groups which gained their wealth by dishonest means will lose their position. This is why they are defending that position so fiercely. They attack us because they are afraid of us."

Peasant Alliance Chairman Interviewed

PM1706091093 Lodz GLOS PORANNY in Polish 11 Jun 93 pp 1-2

[Interview with Gabriel Janowski, Peasant Alliance chairman, by correspondent Henryk Sroczynski; place and date not given]

[Text] [Sroczynski] The government lost its parliamentary majority as a result of your party's withdrawal from the government coalition. Do you not feel responsible for what happened subsequently: the passing of the no-confidence vote, and the dissolution of parliament?

[Janowski] No, I do not feel directly responsible for what happened, although I do see myself as the person who first drew the coalition's attention to the fact that things were not going as they should. The blame for the turn of the events should be apportioned to everyone, including even Prime Minister Suchocka. This is because of the failure to initiate a sober and objective debate on the matters to which we were alerting the government. Let me remind you that the Peasant Alliance proposed a move which would have made the whole coalition configuration of forces much more effective. We stipulated that a political forum be created which would offer us an opportunity for an open and broad-ranging discussion.

[Sroczynski] So how do you explain the fact that your ideas and recommendations were not realized?

[Janowski] Unfortunately, the arrogance of a significant proportion of the coalition members resulted eventually in the present deplorable outcome. In politics, arrogance is about the worst possible way of handling things.

[Sroczynski] How did you react to the dissolution of parliament?

[Janowski] It was true that the previous political configuration of forces was becoming quite dramatically void in its entirety. To sustain it artificially would have been harmful for the whole country. Consequently, it became essential to bring in a radical solution: a new election.

[Sroczynski] What can a new election bring us?

[Janowski] Once the present difficult period—in which the government will be capable of attending only to current matters—is over in the fall we will witness the emergence of a new political configuration. It is to be hoped that this produces a new government with a strong backing in the Sejm. Perhaps that new government will survive as long as four years. It will be only then that we can realistically expect a speedier development.

[Sroczynski] Do you believe that the tactical move which you devised will eventually bear fruit for you in the form of public support for your party in the election campaign?

[Janowski] What do you mean by the term "tactical move"?

[Sroczynski] Your withdrawal from the government coalition.

[Janowski] Sir, that was most certainly not a tactical move. You normally choose to remain within a setup which obviously brings positive results. If there are no such results, you should formulate and voice some kind of warning. That is precisely what we did. However, our warning did not bring any positive results. Therefore the next logical step for me was to resign my position as agriculture minister. Even that was not enough to make the government reflect on the situation. Nevertheless, our parliamentary caucus still elected to abstain from spelling out our position during the ballot on whether to pass the no-confidence vote on Hanna Suchocka's cabinet. So you can see that we did not act in a destructive manner. Our action was consistent in that it was designed to make the government coalition and the politicians associated with it take a more sober look at the situation. Unfortunately, they failed to recover from their state of intoxication.

Danescu Returns From China, Assesses Visit

AU1706075093 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1700 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Statement by Lieutenant General George Ioan Danescu, minister of the interior, in Bucharest on 16 June—recorded]

[Text] I have been on a one-week visit in China upon the invitation of my Chinese counterpart, [Public Security Minister] Tao Siju.

During this working visit I had the opportunity to examine, together with my Chinese colleagues, the way in which we are carrying out our reciprocal obligations established by a protocol concluded in 1991 between our two ministries. We reached the conclusion that the actions stipulated by the aforementioned document have been carried out appropriately and, concerning the future, we agreed to work out new solutions to enhance the cooperation between the two ministries.

One of the important moments of our talks with the members of the Chinese delegation was the exchange of information concerning the activity of the Romanian and the Chinese law and order bodies. As is commonly known, certain citizens of both Romania and of the People's Republic of China broke and still break the laws of our countries—I mean Romanian citizens in China, and Chinese citizens here, in our country. We thought that it would not be a bad idea to establish more efficient cooperation in this field as well.

I also had the opportunity to visit a number of police units and troops of the armed police units [trupe de politie inarmata], where I was pleasantly surprised by their equipment, their training, and when I say equipment I mean that they possess exceptionally good technical and transmission equipment.

Certain [police] education units in (?Senzhen) Municipality also caught my attention. Similarly, the visit at Research Institute 1 of the Ministry of Public Security in Beijing was also very interesting.

I would like to specially emphasize the attention they grant to the professional and disciplinary training of police employees, the results of which one keeps seeing all the time.

I would not like to conclude without mentioning that during my visit I was received by the first state counselor of Mr. Li Peng, the premier of the PRC state council, by mayors and governors of certain provinces. I had extremely interesting exchanges of opinion with all of them.

In conclusion, I assess that this working visit was very useful and I hope that together with my team we can implement everything that is positive in our Chinese colleagues' experience as soon as possible.

Melescanu Redefines Outlook on Black Sea Cooperation

AU1806073493 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1549 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 16/6/1993—The Romanian minister of foreign affairs, Teodor Melescanu, redefined Romania's outlook on the functioning of the Ministerial Council of the Black Sea Cooperation Zone during a discussion with partners in the said body.

Now in Istanbul, to attend the second meeting of the foreign ministers and their representatives from the eleven countries member in the Black Sea Council, the Romanian minister said that this structure had to remain open, to be a sub-system of the European space. Romania understands this cooperation as a way for it to get integrated into Europe, as a means to help it reach this objective, and not as an alternative or a substitute.

PDAR Favors Early Elections, Unity Government

AU1606191993 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1410 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 16/6/1993—Victor Surdu, chairman of the Romanian Agrarian Democratic Party, PDAR, told a 16 June press conference that he was favouring snap elections, totally "justified" both economically and politically and from a legislative point of view.

Mr. Surdu added that the present solutions did not prove viable, that the political spectrum was confusing, that it might be given a "better configuration" after the polls, which could also relaunch the parliament's activity, totally inefficient at that moment.

The PDAR leader mentioned that he had always favoured a national union government and that is why he thought it was positive that President Iliescu had consultations with political parties.

On another line of thought, Victor Surdu said that he could find "no justification" for the present strike of engine drivers, as their salaries were three-fold those of agriculture experts.

Mr. Surdu ruled out a fusion of the party he was head of with some other parties. He added that his party had a good position in the territory.

Foreign Media Bulletin: Balkan Crisis 18 June

WA1806161393

The following is an overview of current FBIS reporting on events in the Balkans. It supplements other FBIS reporting and consists primarily of selected summaries of longer reports. For reference purposes, serial numbers of the longer reports are provided.

SUMMARY

Muslims reject plan to partition Bosnia ... Bosnian cease-fire goes into effect, sporadic violations reported ... UN observers report Gorazde devastated ... Krajina Serbs warn that Croatian Army preparing for attack ... Serbian Government survives no-confidence vote.

DIPLOMATIC

MUSLIMS REJECT NEW PLAN (AFP, TANJUG): Bosnian President Izetbegovic rejects plan to partition Bosnia into three ethnic "constituent units," calling it "completely unacceptable" and "an invitation to more ethnic cleansing." Bosnian Foreign Minister Silajdzic calls for emergency session of UN General Assembly to "prevent the dismemberment of a UN member." According to TANJUG, however, Conference on Yugoslavia Cochairman Owen contends Izetbegovic "agreed with" the proposal at Geneva peace talks but "asked to consult" the Bosnian Presidency first. Peace talks will continue in Geneva on 23 June. (AU1706154593, AU1706150593, 1706161893)

MILITARY

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS REPORTED (Belgrade Radio, Sarajevo Radio): Bosnian cease-fire takes effect on 18 June but Serbian, Muslim media report sporadic violations. Belgrade Radio reports Muslim forces "trying to penetrate" Serbian defense lines "with strong infantry attacks," Croatian forces shell Serbian positions along corridor in northern Bosnia. Sarajevo Radio says Muslim-Serbian fighting continued in villages in eastern Bosnia just prior to cease-fire, "general alarm" sounded in Sarajevo, Croatian sniper fire heard in Konjic. (AU1806145693, AU1806143993)

UN OBSERVERS: GORAZDE DEVASTATED (AFP, Sarajevo Radio): UN military observers report "40 percent" of houses in Muslim enclave of Gorazde "totally destroyed" after Serbian shelling but that the population's expectations for an improvement in the situation is "very high." Sarajevo Radio reports Serbian guns surrounding the town "have simply gone silent" since UN observers reached the town on 16 June. (AU1706192793, AU1706203493)

MUSLIMS, CROATS REPORT EXPULSIONS (TANJUG, Sarajevo Radio): Muslims, Croats in central Bosnia trade accusations of mass expulsions during two months of fighting. Bosnian Croat official Dario Kordic says 2,000 Croatian civilians and soldiers killed or wounded, over 60,000 Croats driven from homes in last 15 days of fighting with Muslim forces. Muslim forces report Croats have expelled "about 6,200 Muslims" from Mostar since 9 May. (LD1806093293, AU1706203493)

SERBS PREDICT CROATIAN OFFENSIVE (Belgrade Radio, AFP): Krajina Serbs warn that Croatian Army preparing attack before 19-20 June referendum on unification of Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia. Lord Owen says he is "concerned" that referendum will "provoke an attack" on Krajina by Croatian Army. (AU1706155293, AU1706175193)

POLITICAL

SERBIAN GOVERNMENT SURVIVES VOTE (TANJUG, Belgrade Radio): Serbian Government survives vote of no-confidence when Seselj's Serbian Radical Party joins governing socialists in voting for the government. Seselj, however, warns that his party is "giving the FRY and Serbian Governments until September" to improve the country's economic situation or face "a more radical option." (LD1806080093, AU1706180093)

Sporadic Fighting as Cease-Fire Goes Into Effect

AU1806130393 Paris AFP in English 1241 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Bruno Franceshi report]

[Text] Sarajevo, June 18 (AFP)—A U.N.-brokered ceasefire went into effect across Bosnia-Herzegovina at midday Friday, amid caution about its chances of success and reports of continued Moslem-Croat fighting in central Bosnia.

U.N. officials said they expected all fighting in the republic to die down but not stop completely when the truce came into effect at noon (1000 GMT).

A few minutes after the deadline passed, intermittent mortar rounds, tank fire and automatic gunfire could still be heard in the Bosnian capital.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman Barry Frewer told a press briefing that Croat and Moslem forces were still fighting in central Bosnia around Novi Travnik, 80 kilometres (50 miles) from Sarajevo.

On Thursday Frewer had predicted that there would be "minor pockets of fighting" and that the key was to see "how the ceasefire consolidates" over the next few weeks.

The truce agreement, reached Tuesday at Sarajevo airport by military leaders of Bosnia's three warring parties, is ambiguous. It states that as of noon Friday "all three parties shall issue written orders to their forces to cease fire."

The head of the mainly Moslem Bosnian army, Rasim Delic, said in Sarajevo Wednesday that he had issued orders for his troops to stop fighting.

Ahead of the ceasefire Sarajevo radio reported Friday nationalist Serb shelling of the besieged Moslem enclave of Gorazde, despite the arrival there Thursday of the first U.N. military observer team there since the region of 70,000 people was declared a U.N. safe area.

The radio said shelling of the town of Gorazde stopped Thursday, but that shelling and infantry assaults on the defense lines around the eastern Bosnian town continued with even greater intensity than Wednesday. It said the fiercest fighting were in Ilovaca, 10 kilometres (six miles) southwest of the town.

Meanwhile in Rome, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman said he wanted to guarantee Moslem interests in a proposed division of Bosnia into three ethnic-based republics.

He denied having agreed to a carve-up of Bosnia with Serbia. "No agreement has been reached between me and President Slobodan Milosevic," he said in the Friday edition of the Italian daily LA STAMPA.

To show Croat goodwill to Moslems, "despite the offensive of their forces against Croat civilians in central Bosnia, Croatia is prepared to guarantee them access to the sea...at Ploce, north of Dubrovnik."

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic has already rejected the Croat-Serb plan, despite criticism from European Community mediator Lord Owen who urged him to consider the proposal.

In central Bosnia, Sarajevo radio said the Bosnian Croat army, the HVO, on Thursday shelled Moslem villages around Hadzici, 10 kilometres (six miles) southwest of Sarajevo, and Visoko, 20 kilometres (12 miles) to the northwest.

It also said HVO was cooperating with Serbs in attacks on the mainly Moslem Bosnian army in Visoko and Vares, 30 kilometres (189 miles) northwest of Sarajevo.

Vares is under Croat control but surrounded encircled by Bosnian Moslems. Some 15,000 Croat refugees there said Thursday they would head Friday to safer areas under Croat control. Most had fled from the central town of Kakanj amid a Moslem offensive in central Bosnia launched in early June.

In Zagreb, Slobodan Lovrenovic, spokesman for Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban, was quoted as saying the situation in central Bosnia was "dramatic", particularly in Vares where he said there were severe food shortages for the refugees.

The HINA news agency in Zagreb quoted by vice-president of the Herceg-Bosna Croatian enclave in southern Bosnia, Dario Kordic, as saying more than 60,000 Croats had been forced to flee Moslem shelling in the offensive this month.

Muslim Forces Launch Attacks Near Gorazde

AU1806145693

[Editorial Report] Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1300 GMT on 18 June carries in its regular 33-minute newscast several reports on the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The studio announcer says that "clashes between Serbian and Muslim forces near Gorazde from the direction of Trnovo towards Dobro Polje in the Kalinovac municipality continued this morning. The Muslims are trying to penetrate Serbian defense lines with strong infantry attacks."

Vaso Antic reports from Orasje that "one Serbian soldier was killed, one injured, and one taken prisoner yesterday in the region of Krebsic and Vucilovac, 10-kilometers southeast of Orasje, when a small infiltration group ambushed soldiers who were securing minefields in the region. At around 1200 [1000 GMT] yesterday, Croat forces on this part of the front used artillery to shell the positions of the Serbian republic army from the occupied village of Vucilovac. Thirty 60-mm and 82-mm mortars

were fired at Serbian positions in the region of Krebsici, 12-kilometers south of Orasje."

Reporting on the situation in Foca and Cajnic, correspondent Miso Vujovic says that "according to Serbian military sources, units of the so-called Army of Bosnia-Herzegovina tried to take several important positions in the direction of Cajnic with combined infantry and artillery attacks, but this was yet another fiasco."

Vlado Trisic reports on the situation on the Majevica front and says that "between 1000 and 1200, from their strongholds in Celic, north of Lopari, the Muslims peppered Serb positions in Pirkovci with heavy infantry and artillery fire. The statement goes on to say that Serb soldiers returned fire. After 1200, the cease-fire went into effect on the Majevica front. Many people, primarily soldiers, do not expect very much from it.

Serbian Guns 'Silent' Due To Observers

AU1706203493

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1700 GMT on 17 June carries within its regular 45-minute newscast several reports on the war situation in the republic.

According to Gorazde correspondent Enes Musovic, the "arrival of the [word indistinct] group of UN observers in Gorazde has finally shown that the chetniks can or (?must) do without the mass killing of the local civilians. [words indistinct] of arms whose deadly barrels had been turned toward Gorazde in the past days, and which (?unselfishly) sowed death in the town, have simply gone silent since last night." Musovic says that the UN "observers are split into three groups. Today, they held talks with the military and civilian authorities of Gorazde, and visited the hospital, full of wounded and sick people."

According to a correspondent from Tesanj, "the most serious situation on the Tesanj front is around the village of (?Cije), where [words indistinct]. This village was hit by over 200 projectiles of various kinds today. Several civilians were killed or wounded." The correspondent also says that "the Ozren area was overflown by helicopters. New tanks were deployed today around (?Komucanci and Vrelo), toward Tesanj [word indistinct)."

Sarajevo correspondent Edim Muhic reports that a "relatively quiet afternoon prompted the residents of Alipasino Polje to come out into the streets, but one high caliber shell was enough to cause a (?massacre). At 1750 [1550 GMT], the shell hit the area between [name indistinct], killing or wounding several people. The exact number of casualties is not yet known.

"The situation was also very grave in the free Vogosca area, where the chetniks were shelling Hum, Kobilja Glava, [name indistinct], Orahov Brijeg, and Barica with all types and calibers of artillery all day today. "Other parts of the town were relatively quiet in the afternoon."

Hadzici correspondent Jadranko Milosevic reports that the "artillery attacks by the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] (?from) [name indistinct] and Kiseljak that started on the Hadzici part of the front early this morning from the stronghold of [words indistinct] continued this afternoon." According to Milosevic, "the (?victims) of the artillery attacks this afternoon were the Muslim villages of Zabrzje, (?Sezerovo), Colakovici, Mokrinje, and (?Potunja), at which the HVO fired over 300 very destructive shells."

A correspondent from Mostar reports that the "fighters of the HVO in all the parts of Mostar that are under their control have continued the persecution of the Muslims and ethnic cleansing from the right bank of the Neretva River. Last night they expelled 78 citizens of Muslim nationality [words indistinct]. Since 9 May, the fighters of the HVO have expelled through ethnic cleansing about 6,200 Muslims from the left bank of the river on the orders of the (?leaders) of the Croatian community of Herzeg-Bosnia. A large number of them fled to other countries under duress and maltreatment."

UN Observers Report Devastation

AU1706192793 Paris AFP in English 1847 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Sarajevo, June 17 (AFP)—U.N. military observers (UNMOs) in the besieged Moslem enclave of Gorazde Thursday [17 June] described a devastated area critically in need of food despite almost daily Western airdrops.

In their first report back to the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) headquarters in Sarajevo, the eight-man team said there was widespread damage in the town but that it was calm Thursday, despite explosions five kilometres (three miles) to the north.

They reported the chief doctor at the hospital as saying that "150 heavily wounded people should be evacuated as soon as possible" and mentioned one special case—a three-year-old child suffering from blood cancer who was in critical condition and needed to be evacuated.

The UNMOs arrived late Wednesday after Serb troops attacking the enclave, 50 kilometres (30 miles) southeast of Sarajevo, had blocked them for weeks. Gorazde was the only one of six U.N.-declared safe area for besieged Moslems in Bosnia-Herzegovina with no U.N. presence and no Western ability to verify reports of fierce fighting and destruction.

The UNMOs said in their report at 6:15 p.m. (1615 GMT) that residents told them Thursday was the first day in three weeks that there had been no shelling of the town.

In a patrol of the eastern part of the city, the observers saw up to 40 percent "of the houses in that area are totally destroyed," according to a written copy of their report shown to AFP.

They said all the houses had "minor or major" damage.

The UNMOs said local officials told them Gorazde was without electricity and "only 40 percent of the needed water supply is available."

The officials said people were using water from the Drina River after boiling it and that there was a critical need for food, with airdrops conducted by North Atlantic Treaty Organization planes since March "helpful but not sufficient."

The chief doctor at Gorazde hospital, Alia Begovic, told the UNMOs the 27-bed health center from before the war now held 100 patients and that over the past 20 days it had taken care of 2,000 people.

Most of the patients in the hospital were elderly or very young people but there were also many cases of amputations and those suffering from stomach wounds, the doctor said. Patients were sent home immediately after being operated on.

He said the hospital needed an anesthetist and two teams of surgeons.

The observers said the population was encouraged by the lull in the fighting and that their expectations for an improvement in the situation were "very high." A ceasefire is due to go into effect at midday Friday throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The UNMOs said civilian authorities had told them the population in the enclave was 65,000-70,000, with 38,000 displaced persons and 27,000 original inhabitants. A total of 13,000 of the displaced persons were "living in camps supported by the local Red Cross" and 4,000 in temporary accomodation, with the rest in private houses or collectives.

There were about 15,000 people under the age of 14 in the town.

Sarajevo radio said Thursday that a Moslem village was burned down in the enclave, the 52nd since fighting began and said the strongest combats were in Ilovaca, 10 kilometres (six miles) m southwest of the town.

Muslims Resume Offensive Against Rajlovac

LD1806115293 Pale Radio-Televizija Republike Srpske Studio-S Radio in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Our war chronicle begins with a report by our reporter Midorag Stanisic from the Rajlovac battlefield, where Muslims resumed their offensive this morning.

[Stanisic] Fierce fighting in the Rajlovac section of the battlefront flared up with unprecedented intensity. Shortly before 1000 this morning, Muslim forces attacked the Serb army along the Vis-Mijatovica Kosa line. Artillery barrages and infantry clashes continue uninterrupted. A smoke screen has been spreading from Sokolj in the direction of Smiljevici and Mijatovici. Although the enemy has been bringing in reinforcements, the Serb army is doing its utmost to push the enemy forces back. [passage omitted]

Bosnian Foreign Minister Urges Emergency UN Session

AU1706150593 Paris AFP in English 1422 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Vienna, June 17 (AFP)—Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic on Thursday [17 June] called for an emergency session of the U.N. General Assembly to prevent Bosnia-Herzegovina from being carved up by its neighbors.

Silajdzic spoke at a news conference here a day after the presidents of Serbia and Croatia agreed in Geneva on a new plan for Bosnia that would create a federal state with three "constituent nations."

He said U.N. and European Community mediators chairing the Geneva talks were unwillingly presiding over legalisation of aggression in the former Yugoslav republic.

"The lines drawn in blood will now be confirmed on paper under the auspices of the international community," Silajdzic said outside a U.N. human rights conference where he received a standing ovation Tuesday.

"We therefore call for members of the United Nations to convene an emergency sesson of the General Assembly at the earliest possible date to prevent the dismemberment of a U.N. member.

"The restoration of the credibility of the United Nations is essential for international order," he said.

'Beginning of Catastrophe'

AU1706154593 Paris AFP in English 1450 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Vienna, June 17 (AFP)— Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, who stormed out of the Geneva talks Wednesday, said Thursday in Bonn the Serbian-Croatian plan was "completely unacceptable" and an invitation to more ethnic cleansing.

The new diplomatic developments on Bosnia come with the prospect of Western military intervention waning and the world community focusing more on ways of containing the conflict.

But Silajdzic said that allowing Serbian aggression would encourage similar moves by dictators against other small countries and likely force the world to commit military power elsewhere to restore the rule of law.

"We hope they will understand that this is not only about Bosnia, that this is the beginning of a catastrophe in Europe" he said. "The regime in Belgrade, if they get away with it, is a pioneer and messenger of the future."

Silajdzic continued to express the hope that the United States would succeed in pushing for air strikes against the Serbs or an exemption for the outgunned Moslem-led army from a U.N. arms embargo so it can defend itself better.

Although Washington's European allies have rejected the two options, Silajdzic said he was encouraged by U.S. President Bill Clinton's stand and predicted the Americans would act.

"Abandoning Bosnia would be abandoning all that they stand for," he said.

Meanwhile, the 51 countries of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference asked the other 130 states at the human rights conference here to support the call for a lifting of the arms embargo for the Moslems.

Karadzic: Serbs, Croats Opt for Three States

LD1706170793 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1623 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Geneva, June 17 (TANJUG)—Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said on Thursday that Serbs and Croats, who make up a majority in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, had shown that they wanted Bosnia to be divided into three states, "probably in a confederal relation."

"The Moslem side must accept reality and that reality is not disastrous because 30 percent of Bosnia's wealthiest municipalities would belong to the Moslem side," Karadzic told the press before leaving Geneva.

Agreement in principle was reached on a division of Bosnia-Herzegovina into three ethnic communities—Moslem, Serb and Croat—during Wednesday's meeting of leaders in former Yugoslavia and international mediators Lord David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg.

Moslem leader Alija Izetbegovic on Thursday turned down in Bonn the proposed division of Bosnia into three parts and again asked that the Moslem side be exempted from the United Nations arms embargo.

The Geneva summit has shown who is for peace and who wants war, said Karadzic.

The meeting in Geneva approached with more sense of reality to the situation on the spot, said Karadzic and added that any other approach would mean a loss of time and a prolongation of war.

In Karadzic's view, the Bosnia talks, which will resume in Geneva next Wednesday, should proceed in three fields.

The first is the establishing of a ceasefire, the second a gradual demarcation among the ethnic groups and the third an agreement on a future organization of Bosnia-Herzegovina, said Karadzic.

Muslims Renew Attacks on Croat Villages

LD1706170293 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by Zdenko Vranjes]

[Excerpt] It is relatively calm in Novi Travnik today. However, combined artillery and infantry attacks continue in the area of Rostovo and Sebesic, south of Travnik, and on the village of Rat [south of Novi Travnik] from which the civilian population managed to escape, the Third Operational Zone of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] for central Bosnia said in a statement today.

According to the same source, a combined Muslim artillery and infantry attack began this morning on HVO-held positions in Bankovci and (Bocinje) in the Kiseljak municipality, and on the village of Mratinici in the municipality of Kresevo [west of Sarajevo]. All the attacks were repelled.

Muslim forces have also launched mortar attacks on the area of Busovaca and the very center of Vitez. An exceptionally strong attack has been in progress since this morning on the villages of Citluk and Brankovac in the Travnik municipality, on which hundreds of grenades landed. The Muslim Army is using civilians as a human shield in this assault, the HVO's military sources say.

The Travnik Brigade Dolac na Lasvi, as its press service has reported, managed to recapture an important strategic point on [word indistinct] hill. Muslim forces are looting and burning the captured villages of Polje, Gornji Dolac, and Puticevo [southeast of Travnik]. Radio hams report that more than a hundred houses have been set on fire in these villages.

Monsignor Vinko Puljic, archbishop of Vrh Bosna [Sarajevo district], has been touring the region of central Bosnia yesterday and today, escorted by UN Protection Forces [UNPROFOR]. According to radio ham reports, moved by the crimes against the Croats in central Bosnia, Monsignor Puljic said that he will make sure the world learns about this and called on the parishioners to persevere and remain at their ancestral homes. As the the military sources of the HVO for central Bosnia have announced, two seriously wounded persons died at Nova Bila [near Travnik] hospital due to a shortage of medicines and equipment. The Muslim side has not yet given its consent for the evacuation of the wounded from Nova Bila. [passage omitted]

Muslims Kill 12 Croats

LD1706191893 Zagreb HTV Television in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Report by correspondents Smiljko Sagolj and Marija Topic]

[Excerpts] [Sagolj] Central Bosnia these days is, unfortunately, only columns of Croatian refugees from hundreds of burned down houses and villages. This is the first testimony from our correspondent in central Bosnia, a testimony in the form of film footage, of course, which we obtained through our contacts and [word indistinct] in blockaded central Bosnia. What these people say is shocking. Muslim formations drove them out of villages around Travnik towards Vitez in an unprecedently murderous and bestial manner—from the homes they have lived in for centuries. [passage omitted]

[Topic] During today the Muslim Army again attacked the Novi Travnik region, Nova Bila, Kiseljak, Busovaca, and Kresevo [all in central Bosnia]. The fiercest attacks are being carried out in the (?Sedesic and Rostevo) regions in the municipality of Novi Travnik, as well as in (Gostin), Puticevo, and Nova Bila, the last villages in the Travnik municipality. In Kresevo [30 km west of Sarajevo] itself the attacks are also continuing. During these attacks today 12 civilians and soldiers were killed, and 32 were wounded. In the hospital itself two seriously wounded people died today just because members of the Muslim Army from Zenica did not allow a convoy containing severely wounded people to set out for [word indistinct]. Croatian defenders are successfully repelling all the attacks by the Muslim aggressors all along the defense line.

Over 2,000 Recent Croat Casualties

LD1806093293 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0732 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 18 Jun (TANJUG)—In central Bosnia, Muslim forces resumed their artillery and infantry attacks against Croatian villages and positions of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO], Croatian radio reported early this morning.

According to the same source, the Muslim Army yesterday attacked the town of Kresevo for the first time in the conflict. Muslim attacks on Gostinje and Buticevo, the only two remaining villages in the Travnik municipality still being defended by HVO units, continued late into the night. [passage omitted]

According to Croatian radio, Dario Kordic, vice president of the Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna, has revealed that over 2,000 Croat civilians and soldiers have been either killed or wounded and over 60,000 Croats expelled from their homes over the last 15 days of the current Muslim aggression in central Bosnia. Kordic described the situation as the largest exodus of Croatians in their history.

Boban Warns of Retaliation

LD1706185193 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] The office of the president of the Croat Community of Herceg-Bosna [Mate Boban] today sent a letter to the Juan Antonio Yanez-Barnuveo, president of the United Nations Security Council [UNSC]. The letter says that Muslim attacks in central Bosnia are continuing, and that 16,000 Croats have been expelled from the Kakanj area and the River Lasva valley [around Novi Travnik].

We request your urgent intervention that would instantly end the bloodshed and we demand you inform the Security Council about this, the letter says.

Thirty five thousand well-armed Muslim soldiers are currently taking part in attacks aimed at cleansing central Bosnia of Croats, the letter says, and adds that over 7,500 found refuge in Croatia and that the lives of 40,000 Croats are in danger.

The Croatian Defense Council [HVO] is firmly controlling its units, but we cannot be expected to sit idly, while central Bosnia is being ethnically cleansed of Croats, the letter warns.

Croats Release Kidnapped Muslim UN, EC Workers

AU1806132093 Paris AFP in English 1302 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Geneva, June 18 (AFP)—Four Moslems working for the United Nations and the European Community in Bosnia who were kidnapped by Bosnian Croat militiamen have been released unharmed, a U.N. spokeswoman said.

Christiane Berthiaume, spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said the four drivers and interpreters were freed late Thursday in the Jablanica region of southern Bosnia, where they were kidnapped the day before.

The Croats seized the four at a checkpoint after firing shots in the air to force the foreigners accompanying them to flee.

Bosnian Moslem and Croat forces have been engaged in bitter fighting in central and southern Bosnia.

Izetbegovic Arrives in Spain for 'Working Visit'

AU1706185993 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Mufid Memija report from Madrid]

[Text] After he had exchanged views with German Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Kinkel in Bonn

this morning, Alija Izetbegovic, president of the Presidency of Bosnia-Herzegovina, arrived for a short working visit in Spain early this afternoon.

Immediately on his arrival in (Barahaz) airport, the president of the Presidency held (?two-hour) talks with Foreign Minister Solana and his closest aides. This opportunity was used to provide the political and professional leadership of the Spanish diplomatic service with authentic information on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as the latest diplomatic initiative of our government, which has recently been trying—from Paris via London, Vienna, Bonn, and Madrid—to win over the most influential pro-European factors for cooperation that would lead to peace—not any kind of peace, but peace in freedom and dignity for all people and all nations of Bosnia.

President Izetbegovic is currently holding talks with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzales. Tonight, he will be received by Spanish King Juan Carlos.

Bosnia is the main topic in European media, not only in terms of the suffering of its people, but also in terms of [words indistinct] politically supported [words indistinct] (?indifference) of some ruling parties in the West. Bosnia is widely supported in this. This is confirmed by the fact that both German and Spanish television stations began their news with reports on today's visit by President Izetbegovic to Bonn and Madrid.

Tudjman News Conference on Geneva Talks

LD1706174393 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 17 Jun 93

[News conference with President Franjo Tudjman with identified correspondents in Zagreb—live]

[Text] [Correspondent Bunjevac-Filopovic] Miljana Bunjevac-Filipovic, for Croatian TV. Mr. President, after a good night's sleep, what is your comment on the talks in Geneva? Is there any point in taking part in such talks, particularly as far as Croatia is concerned? Is it going to continue participating in these talks?

[Tudjman] Following this good night's sleep, or following many other nights, sleepless or otherwise, you can ask yourself this question. Your question nevertheless boils down to the moral side of these talks. However, in politics, even in international politics, in diplomacy as well as in life in general, it is understandable that final results can only be achieved by that policy, that program, or that man who follows high moral principles. However, life, and the problem of solving international problems in particular, is such that one should primarily bear in mind the purposefulness of talks versus no talks. As for this matter, all these talks, no matter how arduous they are, never mind the fact that many people find them unacceptable, they are nevertheless contributing to the resolving of problems in the only way possible under these circumstances.

Had the international community demonstrated any resolve, had it taken steps to thwart aggression and restore peace, then of course there would be no need for such talks. Since this is not the case, we have no other alternative but to hold talks and negotiations. I said in the small hours of one night, while Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen were persuading me to participate in yet more talks, I said there: You do not have to persuade me, as I know myself that this is a necessity.

I do not know whether I have told you something I said to everyone then, that I would even go to hell to achieve peace once every other method has failed. If my memory has not failed me, Dante's inferno had nine circles. Over the past three years I have personally been through perhaps, without exaggeration, as many as 99. As for yesterday's meeting, yesterday's negotiations, in these circumstances, when neither the EC nor the world community has found a way of putting an end to the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina other than offering humanitarian aid and offering negotiations, then our participation in these talks is more than necessary and, I believe, purposeful.

After all, as far as the president of Croatia is concerned, I take part in the talks there in order to save Croatian lives, in order to win full sovereignty on Croatia's territory without further casualties, and also in order to bring about the most favorable peace in neighboring Bosnia-Herzegovina in the interest of the Croatian people there and the other peoples living in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as in the interest of Croatian state security. In this respect, even after this good night's sleep, I can reiterate what I said in Geneva yesterday: These talks have nonetheless come close to some kind of solution promising less casualties and nearing peace and the end of war.

[Correspondent Crnjakovic] Aleksa Crnjakovic, VJESNIK. Mr. President, yesterday Mr. Degoricija announced further negotiations with local Serbs to take place no sooner than early July. Does this mean that no agreement has been reached on Krajina's status? Does this also mean—given the fact that no military agreement has been reached on a cessation of hostilities—that the Serbs will continue to attack the Zadar-Biograd frontline?

[Tudjman] First of all, the status of Krajina was not discussed there. These were the talks between representatives of the local Serbs and military and political representatives of the Croatian authorities dealing with the normalization of relations and the implementation of the Vance plan.

Although no concrete agreement was reached, the fact that the talks were held and that it was agreed that they should continue as a whole and in the framework of expert groups for certain issues means that even the most extremist Serbian leaders have realized that they will have to accept a solution within Croatia, that they will have to give up on—let me express myself in this way—the suicidal plan, the attempt to offer further resistance to the establishment of Croatia's sovereignty and the implementation of some kind of decision to unite with others. The Security Council, the United Nations, have called on them to do this, and all the European and world powers have made this clear to them. Naturally, there are still those among them who are opposing this, but nevertheless, despite these people, they have been forced to negotiate.

The reason why these negotiations as a whole, at the level at which they were held [in Geneva], have been postponed until the beginning of July is the departure of Mr. Thornberry [UN Protection Force head for civilian affairs], who chaired the conference; he will not be here any more. However, specialized groups will continue talks on certain issues even before then; issues such as the problems of water supply, traffic, transmission lines, pipelines, and so on. Therefore, talks on the gradual normalization of relations will continue, which should also facilitate the normalization of relations and the establishment of Croatia's constitutional and legal order in that area by peaceful means.

[Unidentified correspondent] [name indistinct], LJUBLJANSKA REPUBLIKA. Mr. President, if in addition to the representatives of the former Yugoslav republics, there was room at the conference in Geneva yesterday on solving the war crisis for representatives of the Croatian and Bosnian Serbs, did you ask for the participation of

representatives of the Vojvodina Croats and the Kosovo Albanians in order for Croatia to have a better position at negotiations? Thank you.

[Tudjman] First of all, no representatives of the Croatian Serbs took part in these negotiations, which were only attended by the cochairmen of the conference on the former Yugoslavia—Lord Owen and Mr. Stoltenberg—by Presidents Izetbegovic, Milosevic, Bulatovic, and me. These talks were mainly conducted at the presidential level, although the representatives of the Bosnian Serbs and the Bosnian Croats participated in a marginal capacity in the conference. The main subject, at this level, was the resolution of the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Talks between the civilian and military representatives of the Croatian authorities and the local Serbs were held completely separately, at another location, and had no direct connection. Of course, as far as resolving the Serbian question in Croatia is concerned, we never fail to remind our collocutors about the principle of reciprocity, and we always bear in mind the interests of the Croatian people, the Croatian minority in other regions—specifically in Serbia and Vojvodina.

[Correspondent Badurina] Ingrid Badurina, LA STAMPA. Mr. President, the BBC reported this morning that you reached an agreement in principle with Serbian President [Slobodan] Milosevic yesterday to the effect that Bosnia will become a confederate state of three ethnic communities. On the other hand, Mr. Izetbegovic did not agree with this and walked out of the talks. This in fact definitely buried the alliance between Croats and Muslims in Bosnia, and it seems that the international community has recognized the territory that the Serbs have captured by force. I would like to know what Croatia's interest in this agreement is. In other words, has this not in a way set a precedent that will in the future give a possibility for the Serbs to achieve the same thing in Croatia concerning Krajina?

[Tudjman] Your question is full of wrong conceptions and interpretations—actually, nothing is correct. First of all, it is not true that an agreement was reached between Milosevic and Tudjman. Talks were held—I have already said between whom—about how the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina can be solved in the present circumstances. How to find a solution, how to get out of that hellish conflict, the Serbian aggression against Bosnia-Herzegovina, and as a consequence of that aggression, the Muslim-Croat conflict, [now] when it is clear that there will be no military intervention by the international community.

One, it is not true that there was any kind of agreement between Milosevic and Tudjman. These were only the talks between all those who took part [in the talks]—let me not repeat who that was—discussing how it was possible to find a solution. The international community recommends that a solution be reached in such a way that it be acceptable to all three nations living there. That was one thing—incorrectness in interpretation.

Two, it is not true that Mr. Izetbegovic walked out of the meeting. He attended the meeting until the end, we held bilateral talks, all of us at the table, and he held separate talks on several occasions with Mr. Milosevic and with me, and I think with him [Milosevic] on several occasions.

Three, it is not true that the agreement—ie, the talks we held because we did not reach any definite agreement although we agreed in principle in which direction a solution can be sought—it is not true that this agreement in principle gives the right to the Serbs to keep all captured territories. On the contrary, the need was stressed during the talks—both on my part and on the part of the cochairmen, and of course, on the part of Mr. Izetbegovic—that this solution, the demarcation, the separation into three federal units, or I do not know what they will be called, in the framework of that federal Bosnia or Herzegovina—federal, confederate, or I do not know what, this is a formal issue—we stressed the demand that the interests of all three nations must be satisfied more or less equally. Therefore, the Serbs must give up a certain part of the territory that they conquered in their aggression. I must stress now that this was accepted by the participants in the talks.

Furthermore, it could be said that in the framework of these talks in principle, it could be concluded that the territory which was envisaged for the Bosnian Muslim province—some talked about republics within Bosnia-Herzegovina, some talked about provinces [provincija], some about departments [pokrajina], but the content, not the form is important—has primacy within Bosnia-Herzegovina judging by the surface it covers and even more by its economic, cultural, and scientific importance. You are probably familiar with the geographic, economic, and cultural configuration of Bosnia-Herzegovina and if you imagine that this territory should encompass the area which will comprise Sarajevo, Zenica, and Tuzla—it is then clear that more than 50 percent of industry is centered there, that universities and cultural and scientific facilities etc are there. Obviously, I am telling you this only in rough outlines so you would know what we are talking about.

The Muslims would not accept, and we would not give our Croatian support to a solution that would not be in the interest of the Bosnian Muslims. If we are protecting the interests of the Croat nation there, then we are in favor of fully protecting the interests of the Muslim nation as well; of course, in the given circumstances. But I must say frankly that the Serb representatives in these talks—probably under the pressure of the general atmosphere in the world and of the consequences of the sanctions and the hopelessness of continuing the war—gave their consent to considerable territorial concessions.

On my part, in order to secure cooperation with the Muslims, the cooperation which is now hampered by

some kind of incomprehensible offensive by Muslim forces against Croats, including civilians, I said that Croatia would be ready to grant the Muslim unit [province], on the basis of an agreement, a free zone in Croatia's port of Ploce, in such a comprehensive solution of a tripartite Bosnia.

But of course, I gave my support to Mr. Izetbegovic's demand that the international community should immediately take more resolute steps to halt the Serbian aggression which, according to reports we received in Geneva, came down on Gorazde with particular ferocity yesterday. I also demanded of Mr. Izetbegovic and the cochairmen to take steps in order to also halt the Muslim aggression against the Croatian population in central Bosnia.

[Tudjman] I have not yet had—I had some news on the telephone today—I got it, I don't know whether you got it—an appeal, which they sent from central Bosnia to UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali; the president of the Croatian Republic; the speaker of the Croatian parliament; the Croatian prime minister; [Mate] Boban, the president of the Croatian Community of Herceg-Bosna; [Bosnian Croat] Chief of General Staff [Milivoj] Petkovic; and all the world voluntary charitable organizations.

[Reads out appeal] Notice. Croats from Kakanj municipality—about 15,000 of them—have undertaken their greatest migration [eksodus], since the aggression perpetrated by the so-called army of Bosnia-Herzegovina. At this moment they are being accommodated in the mining town of Vares [about 20 km east of Kakanj in eastern Bosnia]. Conditions, despite the efforts being made by Vares Croatian Defense Council [HVO] and its inhabitants, are very unfavorable. The future is completely uncertain.

Conscious of our tragic destiny hitherto and our celebrated past, we—the political leadership, the army, and the people—have decided to continue along our road of suffering [krizni put] toward the area of Herceg-Bosna at 1000 hours [0800 GMT] on Friday 18 June. We, on this occasion, are not seeking a response from you. We are setting out. If you want to help us, you have time to do this. If you do not, you will find us dead on our road of suffering. [ends notice]

I received similar reports there [in Geneva]. And of course this situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina is so hellish and horrifying on all sides. Everyone ought to take steps: As far as Croatia is concerned, we can continue to offer humanitarian assistance; we can appeal, but we are not in a position to do anything there. On the other hand, we are getting more and more protests here, too, from Croatian towns, and they are calling my office, and I also told Izetbegovic that he should be aware of this fact and take steps to halt this suicidal policy—a policy which runs counter to the interests both of Muslims and of Croats.

After all, people are asking us how it is that we still have over 271,000 refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina accommodated all over Croatia, but we do not have anywhere to accommodate Croatian refugees. And people are asking—these people coming from Bosnia- Herzegovina—you have not got anywhere to put us up, but you are accommodating those who are driving us out and destroying our homes and so on.

Accordingly, the situation is such that truly we are doing everything we can in these talks in order to reach some sort of solution. I have not read out who signed this appeal to the world organization [UN], to everyone in Croatia and the world's public. It was signed by the chairman of the Kakanj HVO and the command of the [words indistinct] brigade and was picked up by radio hams.

Despite such a situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, I, at the conference, and we are doing everything we can to offer the hand of cooperation to the Muslims in the interests of preventing victims, in the interests of more lasting strategic interests, both for the maintenance of Bosnia-Herzegovina and for the creation of favorable strategic interests for the state of Croatia and of course, above all, for the preservation of the endangered lives of Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

We will adhere to this policy, but the general situation should also be understood. So some kind of malicious insinuation implying that there was some kind of agreement—both before and now—on division [of Bosnia-Herzegovina] etc, is completely unfounded and originates in those scenarios which led to all this.

[Unidentified correspondent in English] Channel Four News, London: Mr. President, if the referendum in the Serbian-occupied part of Croatia produces a vote in favor of them joining with the Serbs in Bosnia, would you consider this a hostile act to be answered by military means?

[Tudjman] It is to be expected that we will consider the referendum as a hostile act, as an act contrary, and not just contrary to our constitutional-legal system, but which is designed to destroy the state sovereignty and territorial integrity of the internationally recognized Republic of Croatia despite the declaration by the United Nations and other main world factors that this would be an act of blatant provocation of no validity. I myself said in China that those who organize such a referendum will be called to account. What Croatia's response will be will depend on future circumstances.

In any case, Croatia will try to avoid bloodshed, Croatia will try to avoid war conflicts both within and on its borders. But we have made it clear to our friends both in Europe and the world, who have expressed concern, that we will adhere to the policy of peaceful solutions, but at the same time that we cannot indefinitely put up with the situation which threatens our system and hampers any normalization in transport, economy, and other spheres of life in Croatia. For one quarter of the territory

occupied by Serb rebels and under the protection of the peace forces is an obstacle to normal life in the remaining three quarters of the state of Croatia.

It is encouraging that all those who took part in the talks, including Serbian President Milosevic and Montenegrin President Bulatovic, spoke in favor of Croatian Serbs resolving all their problems with Croatian authorities within Croatia itself. It is to be expected that common sense will prevail among the majority of Serbs in the [UN-protected] zones, that they will heed appeals. I have heard that, among others, the Serbian National Party and other representatives of Serbs in Croatia have appealed to them to abandon any such step, which has also been denounced by the world and which can have undesirable efects on them, primarily.

I, nevertheless, believe in a peaceful solution. For our part, we will do our utmost to ensure that this happens, but let no one be under the misapprehension that Croatia will allow any ideas about an integration [of Serb lands] or that it will allow the present situation to continue indefinitely.

[Correspondent Vodic] Sanja Vodic, NOVI LIST: Mr. President, in view of the fact that the current UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] mandate is about to expire and in view of pronouncements on several occasions by high-ranking Croatian officials that Croatia does not favor any extension unless the nature of the mandate is changed, tell us, please, following your diplomatic activity over the last few days and weeks, if, in your view, there are any indications that the UNPROFOR mandate will be changed and what will happen otherwise? And my other question: What did you talk about with Mr. Ante Markovic [last prime minister of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia] in Zagreb?

[Tudjman] As far as the UNPROFOR mandate is concerned, we still do not know what kind of decision the UN Security Council will adopt and what the UN secretary general will recommend. I had lengthy talks with Mr. Stoltenberg, and he will inform the secretary general about his views. We insist, in particular, on our refusal to accept any extension of the mandate in its present form under which UNPROFOR has been doing nothing, is powerless to do anything about the policy of the Serbian ringleaders in the affected areas. We will ask for steps to be taken to prevent, above all, any deliveries including arms and volunteers from Serbia, Bosnia, and other parts by setting up border controls between Serbia, or rather what they call Yugoslavia, and Croatia and between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia.

We will also ask for steps to be defined to help gradual normalization of, as I said before, transport, electricity supplies, oil pipelines, and general normalization in those areas. Only then will we give a go-ahead for the extension of the UNPROFOR mandate. What the decision will be we still do not know.

As regards your second question. It was your, or rather your paper, that published a story about me asking Ante Markovic to form a government. I would like you to identify the source of your deception, of your misinformation, and lie.

I received Mr. Markovic at the recommendation of one of my ministers, who told me that Markovic on several occasions had asked to see me. I would never, even subconsciously, consider offering him any position within Croatia's democratic authority. Reference was made to him as a businessman who was asked to be an adviser to either the government or president of Kazakhstan, in other words, a man involved in foreign business. I told him, Mr. Markovic, perhaps you can help then develop economic relations with those countries and Croatia, your homeland. Nothing else was discussed. You could not have obtained that information from anywhere else but from people who want to cause confusion in Croatia and among the world public and who want to destabilize Croatia's democratic government in this and other ways.

I can also mention here that Mr. Markovic complained about not having a Croatian diplomatic passport. I told him that there was nothing strange in that. He is a citizen of Croatia and as such was given a regular Croatian passport, and only those people involved in the diplomatic service or who can serve the interest of Croatia by having a diplomatic passport are entitled to it.

[Correspondent Cosic] Marin Cosic, Brazilian Radio. Mr. President, my colleague Marteo Spinaz from Brazilian TV has recently compiled a report in Sarajevo about fugitives from Brazilian prisons who are members of the French UN unit in Sarajevo. Regarding the composition of the UN force, and specifically regarding their actions, let me ask you the following question: Does the UN force in Somalia, or to be more precise, an attack on one general alone among all the others who have weapons and the opening fire on unarmed people give rise to negative perceptions in those other countries, including Croatia, where UN forces have been deployed?

[Tudjman] Your comparison evidently suggests that the international community and the world's main powers were willing to take such determined steps, whereas this is not the case in Bosnia. This indicates something I have been reiterating—that the main powers in Europe and the world have no clear idea how to untangle this really complicated question of Bosnia-Herzegovina. This crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina is truly one of the most complex crises in the modern world. Its nature is nevertheless such that the world ought eventually to put an end to it. This is what guides us in two directions—to protect the Croatian people's interests there as well as Croatian state interests on our own since for state geographic and political reasons this is our vital interest and, on the other hand, to help the international community and

ourselves by seeking a solution that would create preconditions for putting an end to the war and even for a more stable order in this part of southeastern Europe and Balkans.

[Correspondent Ramljak] Olga Ramljak, SLOBODNA DALMACIJA. Mr. President, you have not answered my colleague Aleksa's question—how is Croatia going to react in the event of combat operations continuing along the Croatian frontline? The Serbian referendum in Croatia, provided it takes place, will probably be ignored by Croatia as well as the world community. Can one expect that this attitude toward this act of theirs will result in their increased military activities? How will Croatia react to this, all the more so since this will coincide with the end of the UNPROFOR's current mandate? What about the future of Maslenica [bridge linking Dalmatia to the rest of Croatia] in that case?

My other question refers to your mentioning that Mr. Thornberry will not be present there. Does that mean that Mr. Thornberry is leaving for good and someone else is taking over his office with the UNPROFOR force in Croatia or is this just a temporary arrangement? Does this relate to the situation in Sector West about which Croatia has a great deal of complaints, since things are getting considerably worse there and there is an increasing amount of weapons in the occupied part of this area? At the same time, there is less security in these Croatian areas since the UNPROFOR is not carrying out its duties as it should.

[Tudjman] I would not say that I did not answer. I just answered the way I did. Consequently, please find the answer in what I said. I believe that, as far as Mr. Thornberry is concerned and as far as I know, he is leaving temporarily. It seems to me he is coming back on the 5th [not further specified]. This is why this meeting between the complete delegations has been postponed until then. As I have said, some groups will continue working in the meantime.

As far as your prediction goes that they will step up military activities, this is also possible. I have no detailed reports yet. According to the last report I received, Croatia's representatives and the military representatives of the local Serbs have agreed on some kind of cease-fire, if you understand, to cease this terrorist bombardment of Croatian towns and settlements, something we have made our public aware of and which is also evidence that in the long run Croatia cannot tolerate this situation. Understandably, the Croatian authorities will react to general conditions regarding all these complex issues.

[Correspondent Modric] Modric, YOMIURI SHIMBUN. Mr. President, one of the aspects of the Geneva conference is a revised version of the Vance-Owen plan which obviously turned out, in just few months, to be impossible to implement. Does this mean that a revised version of the Vance plan, which has not been implemented for over a year and half, will follow?

[Tudjman] There is no revised version of the Vance plan. This is a matter of implementing the Vance plan since the Vance plan envisages the restoration of the constitutional and legal order in the zones currently under the protection of the peace force and nothing else. This means, for Croatia's part, securing civil and ethnic rights for the Serbian minority in Croatia, something that we have provided in our special constitutional law in line with the EC's demands and what we are ready to carry out in practice too. Hence, there is no change whatsoever to the Vance plan, this is rather the implementation of the Vance plan, or in other words, this is normalization of life in a sense that this entire area is integrated and incorporated into Croatia's constitutional and legal order.

As regards the Vance-Owen plan in Bosnia-Herzegovina, it is understandable that its previous provisions dividing Bosnia- Herzegovina into 10 provinces could not have been, and cannot be, implemented without international military intervention. Since there is no international military intervention, nor is there any prospect of it taking place, one had to contemplate how to modify this Vance-Owen plan in such a way so as to make it acceptable to all three peoples living there. It seems to me that this Vance-Owen plan will not be changed much in its general principles outlining the survival and constitutional organization of Bosnia-Herzegovina, that these fundamental principles will remain, including some alterations which aim to set up a tripartite Bosnia-Herzegovina, rather than 10 provinces. These are the reasons why modifications are necessary and why implementation is possible. Consequently, let me repeat this, without international intervention it was not possible to impose this Vance-Owen plan, whereas if it were to be implemented, all three parties would have to find it acceptable.

[Correspondent Tudjen] Branko Tudjen, VECERNJI LIST. I would like to ask the following question: There are again some indications that the United States will lift the embargo on exporting arms to the Muslims. Will this not merely render the situation even more complicated again and encourage Muslim extremist forces to launch fresh operations, thus putting everything at stake again?

[Tudjman] This is being discussed. Allegedly, some decision has already been made by, I do not know, the Congress or some committee in the Congress. But this has to pass through an entire procedure, I think it has to go through the Senate, and eventually it is the U.S. President who makes the final decision. Yes, obviously, if this is a solution which might render the situation more complicated. Apart from this, this lifting of the embargo cannot be done without Croatia. Therefore, what is going to follow and how, this is something we have been constantly pointing out; this would amount to pouring gasoline over the fire beneath this Bosnian cauldron; continuation of war instead of seeking a way out.

There is a dual way out—either international intervention imposing peace or a political solution, but no continuation of war, since a continued war means that hundreds of thousands, millions will be suffering casualties, persecution, and extermination and that there will be no peace along the border between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia as well as in other areas. This would threaten the economy and peace in a larger context because, as you know, mojahedin are operating there. They have been featured, they say, on foreign television screens. Operating also are volunteers from the former Soviet Army etc. Consequently any continuation, any such solution that facilitates continued warfare could endanger the peoples of Bosnia-Herzegovina, who are already suffering, all three of them, and the Muslims and Croats in particular, something that none of the three peoples living there has any interest in. It could damage Croatia, in particular, as well as other neighbors and international peace.

This is why I expect the international community to put more weight behind its decision to find a solution by political means in the absence of military intervention.

By the way, the talks which were conducted in Geneva yesterday and the day before yesterday will continue in a week's time. All sides have been tasked with preparing their own proposals for a political solution.

[Unidentified correspondent] If there are no further questions I would like to ask yet another question. What was Fikret Abdic's role in Geneva?

[Tudjman] Fikret Abdic did not take part in these talks. He took part in other talks conducted within the Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency, who allegedly met for the first time since the war broke out. As far as I have learned through my personal contact—I talked to Mr. Abdic a few days ago—and as far as I know about these talks, his role is positive. In his area, he has prevented Croat-Muslim clashes from taking place by, as he explicitly said, dismissing those elements who wanted to instigate such clashes. He is one of those people who not only favor an end to the clashes and disputes between the Croats and Muslims but also favors a political solution within Bosnia-Herzegovina in its entirety. I cannot interpret the details of this meeting. Let us move on. Any other questions? The same question for the third time?

[Unidentified correspondent] What is the Croatian side going to offer in Geneva next week? We have been told about only one offer—that the port [of Ploce] will be a contractually free zone providing the Muslim part of Bosnia access to the sea. What else can the Croatian side offer in addition to this, including territorial changes and changes to the constitutional principles?

[Tudjman] If I understand you well, I did not say that the entire port of Ploce would be a free zone for the Muslim-Bosnian unit. Croatia will be willing to consider giving a free zone within the port of Ploce as is the case in many other countries in the world. The Croatian side will not table its own proposals. This is up to the Muslims, Croats, and Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina to table their proposals and their vision of solutions. Of course, Croatia will be seriously interested, for its own strategic reasons, Croatia cannot be disinterested in either the Serbian side's ambitions to carve its way to the Adriatic along the Neretva valley or the Muslim side's ambitions. In this respect, Croatia will therefore carefully observe these developments and in the course of talks at the level at which yesterday's talks were held and in its capacity as adviser to those who will be preparing such proposals it will strive to make these proposals acceptable to all while protecting the Croatian people's interests in Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as protecting the strategic interests of the Croatian state given its geographical and political position, its borders, and possible influences and threats from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

[Unidentified announcer] Thank you, Mr. President. We are nearing the end of today's news conference.

'Moving Toward an Agreement'

LD1706172793 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1637 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Zagreb, June 17 (TANJUG)—President of the former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia Franjo Tudjman said on Thursday that Wednesday's talks in Geneva had showed that the three confronted sides in war-battered former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina were moving toward an agreement on a political settlement of the Bosnian crisis.

The talks in Geneva on Wednesday were attended by presidents of the Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro Slobodan Milosevic and Momir Bulatovic, Croatian President Tudjman and Bosnian Serb and Moslem leaders Radovan Karadzic and Alija Izetbegovic.

"An agreement which would satisfy the interests of the three constituent peoples in Bosnia is the only way out of the crisis," Tudjman told a press conference in Zagreb.

Over the past 14 months, Bosnia-Herzegovina has been the scene of a bloody civil, ethnic and religious war among local Moslems, Orthodox Serbs and Catholic Croats as a result of efforts by the Moslem leadership to organize the republic as a unitary state in which Moslems would dominate over Christians.

Tudjman also said that the participants in the meeting had agreed in principle that Bosnia should be divided into three federal units.

Commenting on a demand by the Moslem leadership and some Islamic countries that the Moslem side in the Bosnian civil war be exempted from the United Nations arms embargo, Tudjman said that it would add fuel to the flames and prolong the war, which is not in the interest of any of the peoples living in Bosnia.

Government on 'Unconstitutional' Serb Referendum

LD1706180693 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] The government of the Republic of Croatia is drawing the attention of the international community and public to two Security Council resolutions and a Security Council presidential statement, which confirm that the United Nations protected areas are integral parts of the Republic of Croatia. The government concludes that the announced so-called Petrinja referendum is a ridiculous act and a provocation on the eve of the Security Council making a decision on the modification and extension of the UN Protection Forces mandate in Croatia.

This was disclosed by the Croatian Government, which assessed the voting on the secession of parts of the Republic of Croatia as an unconstitutional and illegal rebel act without legal validity and politically meaningless.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and other relevant state bodies are charged to undertake all measures with the aim of establishing responsibility of perpetrators of acts of undermining the constitutionally enshrined principles of unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of Croatia.

Krajina Serbs Predict Attacks During Referendum

AU1706155293 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Danko Peric report from Knin]

[Text] Mortar attacks on Mala Cista continued this morning from nearby Croatian positions in the Skradin region. The attacks are still going on. This was reported by the general staff of the Serbian army of Krajina. The same source reports that the attacks on some fronts yesterday lasted as long as 12 hours. Gornje Biljane, Donje Biljane, Skabrnje, Kakma, and other villages near Benkovac were attacked with all types of weapons. Gornje Biljane was attacked with multiple rocket launchers and howitzers on four occasions. The city center of Benkovac also came under attack.

Krkovic, Dolac, and Mala Cista in the Skradin hinterland were pounded with mortars. Klisa, Vojinovac, Divo Selo, and Pocitelj in Lika were attacked with antiaircraft guns. According to the Krajina (?military and civilian authorities), it is quite certain that the Croatian Army will launch even fiercer attacks prior and during to the referendum on Saturday and Sunday [19 and 20 June].

Krajina will be voting on the sovereignty of the republic of Serbian Krajina and its unification with the Serbian republic [in Bosnia-Herzegovina]. According to the information available here, the Croatian Army was warned on several occasions during the talks between the military expert groups of the republic of Serbian Krajina and the Republic of Croatia in Geneva yesterday not to do this.

It is also interesting to note the increased interest of UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] in the referendum, even though it had been announced earlier that UNPROFOR units will ignore it.

UNPROFOR Recommendation Not To Attack Serbs Ignored

LD1706210593 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2040 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Knin, June 17 (TANJUG)—Croatian troops opened strong mortar and tank fire on the wider region of the Serb village of Krkovic in the Central Adriatic hinterland on Thursday.

With this action, Croatia has shown that it disregards a recommendation by United Nations Protection Forces (UNPROFOR) Commander General Lars-Eric Wahlgren to the warring sides in the territory of the former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia to refrain from combat activities while the coordination of a new draft ceasefire agreement is underway.

The Krajina Army respects the recommendation. In agreement with the order of Krajina Force Commander General Mile Novakovic, Serb troops will return fire only if their own lives, the lives of the civilian population, military installations or civilian objects are endangered.

The Republic of Serb Krajina was formed by Serbs in 1991 in the territory of former Croatia in answer to its secession.

Krajina was placed under U.N. protection in spring last year, and Croatia launched an offensive against it on January 22 this year, considering it still part of its own terrtory.

UNPROFOR representatives in Knin, the administrative center of Krajina, confirmed that Croatian forces had launched the mortar and tank attack on Thursday.

Official Urges Negotiations With Krajina Serbs

LD1706210093 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Excerpt] We must search solutions in a peaceful way and through political negotiations. We have been consistent in this respect regardless of what has been happening on the other side. Josip Manolic, chairman of the

State Commission for Normalization of the Croatian-Serbian Relations, said this at a commission session held in Zagreb this evening. Here is a report by Mirjana Rakela:

[Rakela] Even if it looks that negotiations are fruitless, a serious politican, Manolic says, knows that only step-by-step policy can achieve the set goal. The other side is starting to realize that no solution will be reached without negotiations. How long they will last will depend on all sides and on international factors. The UN Protection Forces played an important role as far as these negotiations are concerned, Manolic believes. [passage omitted]

Krajina Commander Issues Cease-Fire Order

AU1806080693 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 0200 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Brigadier General Mile Novakovic, commander of the Serbian army of Krajina, sent a letter to General Lars-Eric Wahlgren, commander of the UN Protection Force [UNPROFOR], in which he informed him that on the basis of his recommendation the general staff of the Serbian army of Krajina had issued a decree on a temporary cease-fire, ISKRA news agency reports.

In his message to the UNPROFOR commander, General Novakovic emphasizes that the UNPROFOR command will be promptly informed of any cease-fire violations by the Croatian Army and the Army of former Bosnia-Herzegovina and that the attacker will be responded to if Krajina forces, the civilians, or the territory become endangered.

Krajina Official Discusses Referendum, Borders

AU1706201593 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Although yesterday's talks in Geneva did not deal much with the question of relations between the Republic of Croatia and the republic of Serbian Krajina, Knin is nevertheless closely following everything that was said at the summit. At the moment, signals for the future solution of the Yugoslav crisis are still not clear enough, but they are an indication and are a good enough reason for reactions. How is yesterday's Geneva summit viewed and experienced in the republic of Serbian Krajina? Danko Peric reports:

[Peric] Knin today sees the first reactions to yesterday's continuation of Croatian-Krajina negotiations on a cease-fire, and other military, but also economic issues. Boro Martinovic, an adviser in the republic of Serbian Krajina's government, says that he is constantly linked by telephone with Mile Paspalj and other members of the Krajina delegation in Geneva, and discloses some so far unknown details.

[Begin Martinovic recording] You know what is happening with Bosnia, I think that certain conditions have been achieved precisely regarding what we are going to decide upon on Saturday and Sunday in the referendum. Second, negotiations between the Croat and Serbian side, as this is now officially termed, have not taken place at the Geneva talks. These are really talks, preparations for negotiations. We must be aware that every war ends at the green table. Sooner or later. Therefore, negotiations have to take place. This is clear, but one must prepare carefully for this.

Yesterday there was a military delegation which was offered a, as we say in contemporary vocabulary, draft, [previous word in English], a draft so to speak of some kind of agreement on a cease-fire, but on a totally new basis. Therefore, there will be no retreating being the lines established on 22 January 1993, but rather behind the lines established on 3 January 1992, minus another 10 kilometers. The Croats have seven days either to accept this or reject it. They are now cornered as far as this part is concerned.

As for this other part, the civilian part, the key problem was how to establish a mechanism for talks between the Croat and Serbian sides. Namely, let us be clear on one point. No one can negotiate in our name. The only people who can negotiate in the name of the people of the republic of Serbian Krajina are the representatives of this people. A question arises here. Would it be better if, as I say, Knin and Zagreb were to negotiate, or Zagreb and Belgrade? I claim that it would be better if it were Knin and Zagreb. This was the main issue, we have succeeded in this, there was a lot of wrangling. For example, the first question elicited threats of arrest, persecution is what they call it, because of the referendum. However, this question was then smoothly answered. It was explained what this really was, what the essence of what we are discussing today, and they were told: gentlemen, if you do not agree, fine, goodbye, and we will go our separate ways.

We will have more detailed information in the course of the day and as soon as we have it, we will present it to your listeners, so you will be informed in detail about the talks. These are not negotiations. However, this continues today in Geneva, and the whole matter is extremely clear-cut. Many people tried [word indistinct] with the republic of Serbian Krajina. That is out of the question. Things are clear, and there can be no dilemmas. Let me make another thing clear. The demarcation line of 3 January 1992 is not the border of the republic of Serbian Krajina. We must be clear on this. Ethnic areas, that is something else, and that will be the first and foremost issue for the new constitution, which will have to establish accurate, precise, defined borders. The attempts to quickly change the former administrative borders into international ones, now look comical. Nobody actually knows whose borders are whose. [end Martinovic recording]

[Peric] In answer to question of how preparations for the weekend referendum are proceeding, Martinovic said briefly that the referendum on the unification of the

republic of Serbian Krajina with the Serbian republic can begin, despite Croat military threats.

Granic Views Serbian Attacks, Situation in B-H

AU1806120093 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 18 Jun 93 p 3

[Interview with Foreign Minister Mate Granic by Irene Miller; place and date not given: "Daily Attacks on Dalmatia"]

[Text] [Miller] Mr. Minister, could the Serbian bomb attack on the Dalmatian hinterland at the beginning of this week be the prelude to an offensive?

[Granic] The attack claimed the lives of seven people. In the past few weeks, the Krajina Serbs attacked Dalmatia virtually every day.

However, the majority of the Serbs in Croatia are absolutely prepared to negotiate with us on their integration in the Croatian state. But the military leadership of the Serbs in the Krajina is strongly influenced by Belgrade—just like, by the way, Ratko Mladic (the Serbian commander in Bosnia—the editors).

[Miller] Again and again, it is reported that the rights of the Serbian minority are disregarded in Croatia.

[Granic] We are prepared to place the implementation of the minority rights under international control. As you know, we want to get into the Council of Europe—and we also accept the standards of the Council of Europe.

We established a committee for the normalization of our relations with the Serbs in Croatia and we called Serbs from all political directions into this committee.

However, before the war the Serbs had real power in Croatia; now it is hard for them to accept that they have lost their influence. There are 13 Serbs, very active Serbs, in our parliament. They are advocating the observation of the minority laws very militantly.

[Miller] The handling of the citizenship laws in Croatia has been criticized again and again.

[Granic] I would like to give you some figures. Originally, about 355,000 applications for naturalization were made. In the first instance, about 12,500 were rejected; 7,500 lodged an appeal, and 2,500 cases of them were decided positively after all. As far as I know, so far only three cases have been finally rejected in the last instance.

[Miller] There are always reports on the destruction of Serbian houses in Croatia.

[Granic] I will also give you figures on that: In 1991 and 1992, altogether 4,000 Serbian houses were destroyed, many of them at the front and during fighting, but some of them also with criminal intent. In the first six months of 1993, there were only 200. You see that the situation is increasingly calming down.

We are struggling against such deeds. However, after the warlike events in our country—7,700 known casualties, 14,000 missing persons, tens of thousand of wounded, 251,000 Croatian refugees, homeless—one cannot simply say that nothing has happened.

[Miller] What are Croatia's relations with Bosnia-Herzegovina?

[Granic] We recognized Bosnia-Herzegovina as an independent, sovereign state. Croatia was the first country to sent an ambassador to Sarajevo. We recommended that the Croats in Bosnia voted for independence in the referendum.

Since the outbreak of the war, we have accommodated more than 1 million Muslim refugees in Croatia, the majority of them, however, were only passing through, today we are looking after 261,000 Muslim refugees.

The problem of Bosnia-Herzegovina is the result of the Serbian aggression, the Serbian occupation of 70 percent of Bosnian territory. It is not surprising that there are now tensions between Muslims and Croats, who have to split the remaining third. There are also many extremists—on all sides.

[Miller] Would Croatia consider exchanging the Croatian territories in Herzegovina for the Serbian Krajina in Croatia?

[Granic] An exchange of territories is not in our interest. We believe that international pressure should be put on Serbia, so that a political solution can be found. The Vance-Owen plan is certainly not ideal, but, as a political framework condition, it is the best that we have at present. Its implementation is the key for Muslims and Croats.

Tudjman Offers Port Access to Bosnian Muslims

AU1706151893 Paris AFP in English 1441 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Zagreb, June 17 (AFP)—President Franjo Tudjman on Thursday [17 June] said Croatia would offer free port facilities at Ploce, on the Adriatic, to Bosnian Moslems should Bosnia-Herzegovina be split into three separate ethnic states.

He spoke after Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic rejected any three-state plan Thursday as "completely unacceptable." Tudjman had announced in Geneva Wednesday that Serbia and Croatia were proposing to divide Bosnia into three constituent units grouped in a loose federation.

Tudjman said Izetbegovic had asked him about port access Wednesay before the Bosnian president walked out of the Geneva talks to protest continuing Serb attacks at home.

The Croatian president said Zagreb was willing to open Polce, formerly known as Kardeljevo and the country's sixth biggest port, as a free port zone for Bosnia's Moslem entity.

The port lies halfway between Split and Dubrovnik, and has rail access to the Bosnain capital Sarajevo, Mostar in the south and Zenica in central Bosnia. To get there, Bosnian Moslems would have to cross what would be Croat territory under the three-state package.

In other developments, Serb forces bombarded the Adriatic port of Zadar after talks in Geneva between the Croatian Government and rebels in the Serb-held Krajina enclave in Croatia failed to produce any truce, Zagreb television said. There were no immediate casualty tolls.

Slavko Degoricija, head of the Croatian delegation, said the two sides only recommended that their armies refrain from opening fire as of 1600 GMT Friday. That is the eve of a two-day referendum in Krajina on uniting with the Serbs of Bosnia.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said in Geneva he was willing to delay any unification process but not to put off the referendum.

Serbian Democratic Forum Official Interviewed

93BA1106A Podgorica MONITOR in Serbo-Croatian 21 May 93 pp 26-27

[Interview with Petar Ladjevic, vice president of the Serbian Democratic Forum in Zagreb, by Zora Zlatic; place and date not given: "Anything but War"]

[Text] [Zlatic] Mr. Ladjevic, to begin, would you present to us the Serbian Democratic Forum of Zagreb?

[Ladjevic] The Serbian Democratic Forum is an organization above political parties, a plural organization, an organization of the Serbs in Croatia of diverse political orientation, its members are mainly educated people, and it is active almost exclusively in Zagreb and in the major cities in the Republic of Croatia. It is an organization above political parties for several reasons: We feel that the aim of every organization should above all be to bring together the Serbs in Croatia, to articulate the interests of the Serbian people in Croatia, and to see what that interest should mean, and in the second place we have felt that the forum should achieve minimum consensus which the Serbs in Croatia could rally around in order to avert the activities of war which even at that time, two and a half years ago, were beginning in Croatia. Now, the forum is operating under essentially different conditions than it was operating before the war, but at no moment has it given up its basic aim—to achieve consensus among the Serbs in the Republic of Croatia in order to prepare opportunities for achieving a lasting peace and permanent agreement with representatives of the Croatian people, so that the activities of war cease once and for all. Our basic aim is a lasting agreement between Serbs and Croats in the Republic of Croatia on behalf of peace and living together.

[Zlatic] How possible is it at this moment to establish the contacts of which you speak?

[Ladjevic] We feel that some kind of negotiations have begun, of which we might be quite critical, but it is evident that some things are moving off dead center, which does not mean that this is the greatest and the best that might be achieved. But it seems to us that compared to the period when war was raging in Croatia, a great deal has nevertheless been done. In the end, you must realize that in Croatia there have been many fewer people killed since the UN forces have arrived, and the second thing is that certain things are nevertheless moving forward.

[Zlatic] What is a possible resolution for the position of the Serbs in Croatia, as seen by the Serbian Democratic Forum?

[Ladjevic] That is, of course, a topic which requires much more detailed analyses than can be offered within the limits of an interview. The program papers of the Serbian Democratic Forum and our press releases concerning our overall activities should be examined to understand this, but the Serbian Democratic Forum takes the position that conditions have come about to begin to resolve the Serbian question. That means, first of all, that the Vance-Owen plan should be respected in its entirety, and then negotiations should be stepped up, and the third and equally important thing is that the point of departure is the assumption that the Serbian question in Croatia has not been resolved, but that we are at the beginning of its true resolution in the full sense of the word, and that is possible with the help of the Vance plan and negotiations.

[Zlatic] It seems that the differing interests of the Serbs in the cities in Croatia and the Serbs in the krajinas are cropping up again.

[Ladjevic] Now, I would not divide the Serbs exactly that way. That would pretty much mean that there are urban and rural Serbs; I do not accept that kind of division, because it could possibly mean something in cultural terms, but in political terms it means almost nothing. The Serbs in Croatia, ever since they became an ethnic community with the disintegration of Yugoslavia, have come into an altogether different position from the one in which they were before as a constituent nationality. The Serbs in Croatia are now in a position where they must decide their fate together with the Croatian authorities. Up to now, as we know, there have not been any good examples, because war has raged, which means that it seems neither one side nor the other has really been very willing to attempt to resolve that problem democratically. As for the attitude of the Serbs in the cities and the Serbs in Krajina, it is quite certain that there must be something that they and we have in common. We are members of the same people, constituting an ethnic community of Serbs in Croatia. Accordingly, it seems to me that we ought not to be divided that way, that there

must be something we have in common, and that something, if nothing else, is belonging to the same ethnic collectivity. Our interests may sometimes differ, because I believe that I in Zagreb and that man in Knin do not have the same type of interests. But I think that those are issues which should be resolved only after this fundamental issue of the Serbs in Croatia is worked out. Then talks are possible about the relationship within the Serbs and their differences, the establishment of differing interests, etc. After all, cultural autonomy of the Serbs in Zagreb is not the same thing as the autonomy of the Serbs in Knin, where they constitute an absolute majority.

[Zlatic] That is exactly why I put the question. Tell me how the status of the Serbs in Croatia can be assessed today.

[Ladjevic] I can speak about the status of the Serbs under control of the Croatian authorities, not the Serbs living in parts of Croatia under control of the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force]. I must say that the situation is not good at all, at some points the situation has even been drastically bad, although no longer as drastic as it was when wartime operations were still going on on the territory of almost all of Croatia. We must be aware of one fact. Somewhere around 300,000 people have moved out of Croatia, Serbs from territories under control of the Croatian authorities, which means that about 100,000 to 150,000 Serbs are left in Croatia, but those are optimistic estimates.

So, that very reduction in the number of Serbs living on the territory of the Republic of Croatia probably says something about their position. Violations of the civil rights of citizens of Serbian nationality in Croatia is an everyday occurrence, and they are taking place at several levels. While the war was going on, there were even those most drastic things such as murders, and indeed even certain relatively widespread executions, to things which pertain to Serbian existential rights in the workplace, and so on. So, the spectrum of threats to the human rights of citizens of Serbian nationality is great in Croatia, and it is one of the things which we must urgently begin to resolve in Croatia if we are to facilitate at all the basic thing which the Serbian Democratic Forum is demanding, and that is an agreement between Serbs and Croats about life together in Croatia. And that is not to be a formal agreement, because unfortunately we have piles of paper which do not mean anything, but really an agreement on how they can live together.

[Zlatic] Have you had any meetings with the Croatian authorities and what kind of response are you getting?

[Ladjevic] The attitude of the Croatian authorities toward the Serbian Democratic Forum is dual. I would go so far as to say that if at some point we were necessary to the Croatian authorities, then they summon us and take us to the highest level. But when we represent some of the vital interests of the Serbian people in Croatia which ought to be realized or achieved, then they can also attack us from the highest levels of the Croatian Government. I would not speak critically now about the Croatian Government, because my view is that this is the job of the majority. The majority is responsible for the democracy and rights of the minorities in any democratic state, and it is up to the majority to decide what this is about, and I think that the Serbs should do everything to present their democratic position as well as possible.

[Zlatic] Is there a political party in Croatia which is taking a comprehensive view of the problems of the Serbs in Croatia at this moment, is anyone really seriously concerned with this except during an election campaign?

[Ladjevic] In Croatia, there is one Serbian party which, to be sure, has ambitions to represent all the Serbs. Of course, that cannot be done by one party, nor is that the party that is doing it. That is a puppet party which actually says everything that suits the incumbent HDZ [Croatian Democratic Union]. As for the attitude toward the Serbs, I would not speak about whether any party has such an attitude. What really interests me is the attitude of the authorities toward the rights of the Serbs in Croatia. As far as the individual parties are concerned, that is an internal party matter, but the attitude of the authorities, when representatives of certain other parties also take part in that authority in some of the parliamentary committees, then that is a real question. I think, unfortunately, that the attitude of the authorities toward the Serbs has been uneven in political terms. Uneven because often very ugly things happen that come from the top level of power. Certain Serbian acts are attributed to the entire people, collective guilt is being nurtured, etc., and that same government can at times be completely benevolent, as though everything were fine, but that unevenness actually indicates that the majority is not really completely ready to resolve the question of the Serbs in Croatia by democratic means.

[Zlatic] What are the prerequisites for reestablishing communications between the Serbs in the forum, that is, the people in the cities, with those who live in the krajinas?

[Ladjevic] Those communications simply do not exist. I think that in any case communications on the space of the former Yugoslavia are worthless, and then they are worthless between the forum and the Serbs living on the territory under UNPROFOR control. For the present, we are unable to maintain any communications with them, which simply indicates the delicacy of the Serbian question in Croatia.

[Zlatic] And what is the contact with the Serbs in Serbia?

[Ladjevic] The Serbian Democratic Forum, of course, insofar as is possible, maintains contacts with the parent country, the parent people. We feel that many things here have not been treated as they should have been. In the end, the Serbian Democratic Forum is the initiator of the idea and of a letter sent to the opposition parties of

Serbia and Montenegro in which we called for proceedings to be instituted in all the parliaments for recognition of the Republic of Croatia. We have advocated mutual recognition, because we feel that without establishing that global bridge, it will be very difficult to reestablish that bridge at separate levels such as relations between Serbs and Croats in Croatia.

[Zlatic] What is the influence of Belgrade on the Serbs in Croatia?

[Ladjevic] It is evident that no one has any influence on the Serbs in Croatia or at least on the ruling group of the Serbs in Croatia who live in the UNPA [UN-protected areas] except one man, and that is the president of the Republic of Serbia. I think that that influence is disastrous in some of its dimensions, and I also think that there are certain desires for understanding at certain other levels. In the end, such efforts toward agreement have in fact begun in Geneva. Accordingly, one cannot speak generally here, but we must specifically know exactly to what we are referring. I think that the negotiations that have begun between the FRY and Croatia are a good foundation for resolving the conflict in the Republic of Croatia.

German Foreign Minister Kinkel Visits Ljubljana

LD1806115593 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1108 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Ljubljana, 18 Jun (TANJUG)—German Foreign Affairs Minister Klaus Kinkel arrived in Ljubljana this morning on a brief official visit to Slovenia.

During the next several hours of his stay in Ljubljana, the head of German diplomacy will meet the highest-ranking representatives of Slovenia and discuss political, economic, and other interstate cooperation. Slovenia's relations with its neighbors—Croatia in particular—will also be discussed, as well as the war in former Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Focus on Economic Cooperation

AU1806115893 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1100 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel is paying a one-day visit to Slovenia. He was received by the entire state leadership. Kinkel and his colleague Lojze Peterle signed an agreement on cultural cooperation.

The main attention focused on the continued dialogue between the two states, primarily the economic contacts, as Germany is Slovenia's biggest foreign trade partner.

The head of German diplomacy also discussed the succession of the agreements signed with the former Yugoslavia and the accelerated integration of our country into the European integration processes, international financial institutions, and the European security mechanisms, with the Slovene authorities.

Before returning to Bonn, Klaus Kinkel will also attend the ceremonial opening of the refurbished German Embassy in Ljubljana.

Higher Produce Prices Agreed Upon; Strike Ends

AU1806080893 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 0500 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] The representatives of the government and the representatives of the Farmers' Alliance and the Cooperatives' Alliance signed an agreement on an approximately 20-percent increase of the official purchase price for some agricultural produce last night. By this, the strike of the Slovene farmers has ended.

Federal

Government Asks GATT To Reconsider Decision

LD1706203093 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1805 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Belgrade, June 17 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government asked the Executive Council of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to reconsider its decision of Wednesday to expell the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from this international trade body, Yugoslav Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Milorad Unkovic said on Thursday.

Unkovic told reporters in Belgrade that the Yugoslav Government had assessed the GATT's decision as hasty and contrary to the regulations and procedure, adding that Yugoslavia has been fulfilling all its duties.

Yugoslavia was expelled from the 111-member body with an explanation that it cannot automatically continue the contracting party status of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the GATT.

Yugoslavia has been the member of the GATT since 1966 and has been exporting tax free between 60 and 70 percent of its industrial product to Western European countries.

Presidential Candidates Submitted to Assembly

LD1806120793 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1013 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 18 Jun (TANJUG)—Six candidates have been submitted to the Federal Assembly for the vacant post of head of state. Only the candidacy of lawyer Jovan Cepic of the Yugoslav Democratic Party meets all the prescribed conditions. Following Dobrica Cosic's ousting, the second president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia should be elected on 30 June.

According to a report by the Federal Assembly's relevant service, incomplete applications have been submitted by the Yugoslav Democratic Block, putting forward Mihailo Markovic and Milosav Bradic of the Yugo-National Party. [passage omitted]

Cosic: Serbian Penetration 'Explosive'

AU1706143993 Bucharest EVENIMENTUL ZILEI in Romanian 15 Jun 93 p 8

[Part one of interview with former FRY President Dobrica Cosic, by Radu Ciobotea, Cornea Raiko; in Belgrade on 11 June: "I Knew I Was To Be Removed By Means of a Coup"]

[Text] Ex-president Dobrica Cosic has become a dissident overnight. He lives in total isolation and all his contacts with the outside world are being carefully watched. Ever since his election as president, his personality has continuously intrigued all those politicians currently in power. He took a taxi to parliament for his investiture ceremony, refusing the official limousine and the bodyguards that were offered him, and paid his fare to the last dinar. On the day of his ouster, he had again traveled to parliament by taxi.

The parliamentary voting machine (the vast majority in parliament is held by deputies of the Serbian Socialist Party and the Serbian Radical Party) removed him from office without explaining the causes and without granting him the right to reply. He also paid the fare back home, as he has always paid for all his diplomatic trips.

"I was the cheapest president Yugoslavia has ever had—says Cosic with a smile, looking at us calmly and disconnectedly. The state never spent a single dinar on me. I bought the house that I live in many years ago. I have never lived in the presidential villa. I detest all this political and protocol fuss with bodyguards and luxury cars, especially in a poor country moving to the edge of the abyss.

"I left office with my dignity intact. I could not agree with [Serbian President Slobodan] Milosevic, just as I had not been able to agree with Tito. I knew that I was to be removed. I just did not know when and by what means."

[EVENIMENTUL ZILEI] How can this paradoxical situation, namely that Yugoslavia's president can be removed from office by Serbia's president, be explained? What was the core of the conflict between those two authorities and how did they come up with this method to "solve" it?

[Cosic] This is a lengthy process that has been going on for quite some time. Under the dramatic circumstances last year, I accepted becoming Yugoslavia's president, with three preconditions for parliament: the organization of the first free elections in the history of postcommunist Yugoslavia, the setting up of a government of democratic unity (I termed it "a national salvation government"), and a fundamental reform of the Constitution. I mean both the Federal Constitution and the Constitutions of Serbia and Montenegro.

Of these objectives, only one was really achieved: the organization of the 1992 December general elections. Even though there were a great deal of irregularities, no one could claim that those elections were rigged. What I mean to say is that, considering the percentage of the rigged votes, they would not have influenced the final results anyway. Owing to causes we will not go into now, those elections propelled two parties—which were dangerous for the subsequent evolution of the country—to the top of our political scale: the Serbian Socialist Party, led by Slobodan Milosevic, and the (extreme nationalist) Serbian Radical Party, led by Vojislav Seselj.

With such a crushing majority in parliament and a Socialist government (of Serbia), the state of Yugoslavia has begun to deteriorate rapidly. Despite such political circumstances, I remained in office precisely to try to

stop the dangerous emergence of nationalism and to contribute, as best I could, to the lifting of the UN sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia.

Milosevic realized that if I were removed too hastily, that would harm him immensely abroad. At that time, he still needed my moral and political authority. During the autumn and winter of 1992-93, there was an extremely bitter struggle to have Milosevic's people penetrate into the structures of federal power. The Serbian Government, acting according to the rules of military coups, has taken over the building, equipment, and the information system of the FRY Ministry of the Interior.

The protests of the Federal Government have yielded no results. If they had reacted more firmly, it might have caused a civil war in the capital. In quite a similar way, the Milosevic government has taken over the Federal Security Service, integrating it within the Serbian Ministry of Interior. The situation has become explosive.

Serbia

Government Survives No-Confidence Vote

LD1806080093 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0044 GMT 18 Jun 93

[Text] Belgrade, 18 Jun (TANJUG)—Early this morning the Serbian Assembly voted in favor of upholding confidence in the republic's government and in Prime Minister Nikola Sainovic.

An initiative to dismiss the government was set in motion by 21 opposition deputies with the explanation that the prime minister has failed to fulfill promises made on his appointment.

In a debate, which lasted for more than 16 hours, Sainovic and his ministers were criticized for having brought the republic's economy to near collapse and for allowing the standard of living to reach its nadir. However, the government of Nikola Sainovic survived the no-confidence vote when the radicals, with certain reservations, decided to join the socialists in voting for the government.

Seselj's SRS Gives Government 'Until September'

AU1706180093 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Serbian Radical Party [SRS] has decided to give the federal government until September to accomplish its programs. This was stated by Vojislav Seselj at a regular news conference. Dragoljub Stankic reports:

[Stankic] The Serbian Radical Party has recently been sharply criticizing the federal government of Radoje Kontic. As Seselj said, the party will today also criticize the cabinet of [Serbian Prime Minister Nikola] Sainovic in the Serbian Assembly. The main [words indistinct] led to the situation in which our people and the state have found themselves, but if they could have not been changed, why have the [word indistinct] circumstances, which could be overcome even in this situation, not been tackled then, Seselj wondered.

Nevertheless, despite everything, the Serbian Radicals are giving the federal and the republican governments until September. If there are no obvious results by then, a more radical option will be applied, Seselj warned. If we did this now, Seselj said, this would impose a new risk on the state and the people, because one month would be spent in the search for new ministers. The Serbian Radicals are warning the workers that those who are acting on their behalf are striving for their own interests. The struggle for the minimum wage is wrong.

[Begin Seselj recording] They should demand the capping of the salaries in the state and social sectors and the setting of the maximum salaries, which cannot be increased under any conditions. When these maximum salaries are set, then it would easy to harmonize what is below [word indistinct]. The purchasing power of population will then be equalized. [end recording]

[Stankic] The Serbian Radical Party demands that the funds for purchasing of wheat and its price be set in time.

Organized Crime Spreads in Southern Serbia

93BA1093F Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 19 May 93 p 13

[Article by M. Pesic: "Foreign Exchange, Weapons, Drugs, and Petroleum Are Being Smuggled"]

[Text] Vranje, 18 May—As time passes, there is more and more evidence that the crime chronicle is becoming fuller and fuller in the Vranje region, and so it is understandable that the SUP [Secretariat for Internal Affairs] has its hands full. The results of police involvement are obvious, and hardly a day passes when no one is arrested.

Organized crime is increasingly present, because often several criminals undertake "operations" and there are fewer and fewer "soloists." Well-organized and connected gangs engage in banditry, taking away jewelry, money, and foreign exchange. The record is a robbery in which perpetrators still unidentified took about 400,000 German marks [DM], about 200,000 Swiss francs, and a considerable quantity of other currencies and gold jewelry.

There is also organized crime in arms smuggling. This year alone, dozens of pistols, revolvers, automatic rifles, scorpions, Thompsons, and considerable quantities of ammunition and hand grenades have been confiscated, and the perpetrators of all this have ended up behind bars. The value of the automatic weapons is estimated at several thousand German marks.

Two stores selling gold jewelry were robbed some time ago in broad daylight, at noon, but the perpetrators were

quickly apprehended through effective action of the SUP. There are more and more thefts of gasoline, which is easily and quickly resold, exclusively, of course, for marks.

Thus, recently 13 persons were taken into custody who belonged to a group that had been smuggling heroin, and a few days earlier members of another eight-member "band" also ended up in prison because of drugs. Several people were involved in this "job," which suggests the conclusion that the heroin chain is larger and is taking on the characteristics of an organized drug Mafia. The revenues of drug traffickers are certainly impressive, because a gram of a drug goes for as much as DM35.

The black market for foreign exchange comprises an ever larger number of dealers, who buy and sell foreign exchange at a decent profit in transactions not only with the general public, but also with private firms and enterprises. The smuggling of foreign exchange is taking place on an increasingly large scale in Vranje, Bujanovac, and Presevo. On two occasions, the SUP has in fact uncovered a sizable amount of counterfeit Swiss francs in denominations of 1,000 "Swiss." Counterfeit bank notes have been put into circulation by Skipetars; one group of them had in their possession 37,000 Swiss francs. The "forgers" of the counterfeit money have become so skilled that the counterfeit Swiss francs were even sold to some dealers!

The stealing of electronic computer equipment has also become fashionable. In a relatively short time, several dozen telephones and Panasonic fax machines, color television sets, computers, and laser printers were stolen from several firms in Vranje. Some of these thefts have already been cleared up, others are still waiting to be solved.

And while on the one hand there are thefts of gold, foreign exchange, and drugs, the smuggling of various goods is flourishing on the other. Thus, no fewer than four cars of petroleum and 20 cubic meters of pine lumber were confiscated from one Skipetar in the vicinity of Presevo.

The crime in the jurisdiction of the SUP is also associated with everything in the jurisdiction of the financial police and market inspectorate, who are simply buried in work.

Macedonia

Ministry Denies Yugoslav Army Seized Village

LD1606201393 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1959 GMT 16 Jun 93

[Text] Skopje, June 16 (TANJUG)—The Interior Ministry of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on Wednesday denied a statement by the head of the Skopje municipality of Cair that the Yugoslav Army had allegedly seized a part of the Macedonian border village of Tanusevci.

This part of the village populated by ethnic Albanians lies in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the ministry said.

The denial came after the head of the Cair municipality made a malicious statement on Skopje's A-1 independent television that the Yugoslav Army had raided the village and seized part of Macedonian territory.

The Macedonian Interior Ministry also denied allegations made by the same person that the Yugoslav Army was arresting and questioning the villagers of Tanusevci.

The [word indistinct] army has only questioned the villagers who were trying to illegally cross the state border, the Macedonian ministry said.

Serbs, Montenegrins Reject Government Stance

LD1806003993 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2231 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Skopje, 17 Jun (TANJUG)—The Skopje branch of the Association of Serbs and Montenegrins rejected at this evening's meeting the draft agreement between the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia [BJRM] and the Serbian nation in this republic on the regulation of the position of Serbs in the BJRM.

The eight-point agreement was put forward recently by Gert Ahrens, chairman of the Geneva conference commission on the former Yugoslavia for the rights of national communities.

In the assessment of the participants in this evening's debate, the only way to resolve this vital problem of the Serbian nation, but also of the BJRM, is for Serbs to be included in the BJRM constitution, as other national communities in Macedonia already have been, when the new constitution is approved.

The current position of the Serbs and Montenegrins clearly leads one to conclude that the BJRM authorities intend "to gradually strip members of the Serbian national community of their national identity [odnarode] and assimilate them in the new state," it was pointed out at the meeting.

Kosovo

Serbian Police 'Intensify Movements'

AU1706192293 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1730 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] The Serbian police are further intensifying their movements in the cities and villages of Kosovo. It is reported that on 15 June, military units equipped with all military munitions marched along the Kapshinice district in Peje.

On the same day, at about 0130 [2330 GMT] after midnight, shots were heard in the Tauk Bashe Sheh quarter in Prishtina for one successive hour.

On 13 June, the Serbian militiamen carried out observations in the field in Saralluk village in Malisheve.

Serbian Police Discharging Albanian Doctors

AU1806070793 Tirana ATA in English 1209 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] Tirana, June 17 (ATA)—In the course of the Serbian platform, the Serbian police have violently dismissed from clinics, laboratories, and surgical theatres about 2,000 Albanian medical workers, 400 of whom are qualified doctors with scientific titles. This campaign of discharges is going on at a time when the health situation is very grave. Nearly 84 percent of the deaths by contagious diseases in former Yugoslavia are registered in Kosova. The lack of food articles for children and the whole population in general is very apparent due to the high percentage of unemployment.

A real purging has been made especially in the Clinic of Gynecology and Obstetrics, where not a single Albanian doctor is employed. After the adoption of "emergency measures," there were 50-60 births a day. During 1989, there were 11,652 babies born, of whom 93 percent were by Albanian mothers. At present, the birthrate is 4-5 births a day. As a result of the grave situation created, Albanian mothers are forced to give birth to their babies at home without any medical assistance and in very bad sanitary conditions. The same situation is noticed in surgical clinics, where as a result of dismissals of Albanian doctors, the patients are afraid of undergoing operations by Serbian doctors, who have frequently caused great complications for them.

Rugova Tells CSCE of 'Dangerous, Tense Situation'

AU1706192193 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1730 GMT 17 Jun 93

[Text] In Pristina today, chairman of the republic of Kosovo Dr. Ibrahim Rugova received the interparliamentary delegation of the CSCE Assembly led by Mrs. Ritber Gehalt [as heard].

Mr. Rugova informed the European members of parliament about the dangerous and tense situation in Kosovo. Daily provocations by the Serbian police and paramilitary forces aim to spark a conflict in Kosovo, Rugova said.

Speaking about the political options on resolving the Kosovo issue, the chairman of the republic of Kosovo stressed that we are for an independent and neutral republic of Kosovo and we think that this is the best solution both for Albanians and the Serbs living in Kosovo. Rugova pointed out that placing Kosovo under UN protection would enable the stabilization of life, the restoration of institutions, and further negotiations on Kosovo's political status.

Dr. Fehmi Agani, Kosovo Democratic Alliance [LDK] deputy chairman, and Dr. Rexhep Ismajli, member of the LDK Presidency, were present at this meeting.